

Sports Cinderella Albany squad takes home NCS softball title **[C1]**

Arts & Leisure Disability Film Fest offers something for everyone **[C10]**

San Pablo Avenue slated for cosmetic upgrades

Cerrito officials have expected more than a facelift to improve look of the city's main street

By Alan Lopez
STAFF WRITER

Years ago, Yolanda Contreras consolidated her two Oakridge furniture stores and moved them to El Cerrito on San Pablo Avenue near Eureka. Contreras said she took a lot of time moving to the sleepy city, and was then witnessing a renaissance at the El Cerrito Plaza shopping center.

Yolanda's New Furniture is thriving, but El Cerrito is-

IF YOU GO:

- **WHAT:** San Pablo Avenue streetscape open house
- **WHEN:** 5:30 to 7:30 p.m., Thursday
- **WHERE:** The Village at Town Center, 10810 San Pablo Ave.
- **INFORMATION:** Call Melanie Mintz at 510-215-4339

n't perfect despite the bustling plaza. She singled out San Pablo Avenue as an area that could use some improvement.

"There are pockets where one block might look OK," Contaxis said, "and one block where it's trashy-looking."

Among other things, she said,

trash and graffiti need to be cleaned up, and the street needs more trees.

El Cerrito officials agree, and are planning to spend more than \$4 million in redevelopment money to improve the look of the city's main street.

Plans for the improvements will be shown at an open house at the retail space of the Village at Town Center apartments on San Pablo Avenue at Schmidt Lane on Thursday.

The planned improvements include new banners, entrance signs, street trees, bike racks, benches, bike racks, and a flashing sidewalk at Madison Avenue.

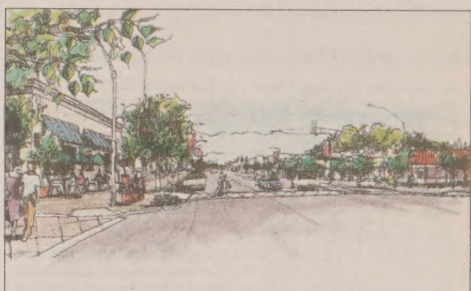
The improvements are intended as a catalyst for attract-

ing and building upon new developments such as the Town Center apartments, which were built last year.

"It really represents part of the future character of San Pablo Avenue," El Cerrito environmental analyst Melanie Mintz said. "It's a nice project that really improves the street, while providing office, retail and residential space. It's that kind of mixture of uses we really see enlivening the street."

The streetscape improvements are also an effort to enhance the city's business climate. Improving the appearance of San Pablo Avenue was among the key changes people would like to see in the city, according to a survey conducted by city consultant Chabin Concepts.

See **UPGRADES**, Page A8



THIS RENDERING shows some of the planned improvements along San Pablo Avenue in El Cerrito. The city is planning to spend more than \$4 million in redevelopment money to improve the look of the city's main street.

Albany teens finish in top 4 at science tourney

By Alan Lopez
STAFF WRITER

Five members of the Albany Science Bowl team studied hard, held their breath until their arms grew numb, and believed they had a chance of winning the first-place trophy from the National Science Bowl competition.

It was until they received a question under what conditions will a chemical reaction always be spontaneous. Audrey Poletayev buzzed in before the question had been completed, causing commotion among the various teams that resulted in a loss to a Pennsylvania high school.

The answer wasn't wrong; it was just a word.

"It would have been better if we had said one match," said Albany High senior Bing Xia, the Science Bowl captain.

The team had much to be proud of for finishing among the top four at nationals.

Qualified for the championship after finishing first in the regional competition in January at the Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory.

The U.S. Department of Energy, which sponsors the national science bowl competition in April, invited the group to compete in an all-expenses-paid trip in the national.

Members said they overcame in-fighting and strategy that plagued them last year. It helped that members are all friends and compete on the same track team.

"We were very cohesive, and we liked working out with each other," sophomore Jackie Quinn said.

Science teacher Peggy Carlock, a science bowl competitor in her own right, said Albany high school days, also helped with leadership and encouragement.

Qualified for the time in 1993 when the Albany High School science team came in a first-place ranking.

"I was hungry to do it again," she said.

According to Carlock, Albany in 2006 was the only Northern California team to make the final four. Along the way it defeated competitors by as much as 74



ALBANY HIGH SCHOOL instructor Peggy Carlock poses with science bowl team members Ian Allen, Jackie Quinn, Audrey Poletayev, Zi Wang and Bing Xia on campus in Albany. The squad recently placed fourth in the national competition.

SCIENCE BOWL TEAM

The members of the Albany varsity and junior varsity Science Bowl and Ocean Bowl teams are: Bing Xia, Zi Wang, Audrey Poletayev, Ian Allen, Jackie Quinn; Zhe Zhang, David Meldgin, Robin Mi, Cathy Wu, Ben Olson, Ronen Sarig and Ritchie Chen.

They covered questions in chemistry, math, physics, biology, earth and environmental science, anatomy, physiology and popular science.

By late afternoon Sunday, the group had advanced to the "Sweet 16." After dinner, they competed in the "Elite 8." The "Final 4" competition came later that night in front of 500 audience members.

According to Carlock, judges declared Albany the winner of the Final 4 match against State College Area High School in Pennsylvania until a timekeeper ruled that the answer didn't contain the word "and."

However, Audrey answered the thermodynamics question correctly: Chemical reactions will always be spontaneous when delta enthalpy is decreasing and when delta entropy is increasing. In other words, when the change in heat decreases

and when the change in disorder increases.

While the team got tripped up on a technicality, it came back to Albany with a trophy and a \$1,000 cash prize.

Carlock said the money will likely go toward purchasing new practice buzzers as well as textbooks. She said she spends \$300 to \$600 on travel and other expenses related to science competitions annually.

"It's huge," Carlock said. "I just wish we could have a budget. It would make a world of difference."

Still, Carlock is mentoring three successful teams that compete in science knowledge and problem solving. One of them she considers a "junior varsity" science bowl group that placed fourth in the January regional competition.

See **SCIENCE**, Page A9

first round of competition. No other team emerged as front-runners.

"We pretty much realized it was in sight," said Ian Allen, a 15-year-old sophomore.

That was the evening of Saturday, April 29, two days after the group — four team members and an alternate — landed in Washington, D.C.

EPITAPH

MIKE AYERS

- **BORN:** June 15, 1957 in Albany
- **DIED:** May 16 in Albany
- **SURVIVORS:** Wife Charlotte, sons Sean and Nicholas and daughter Courtney Ayers; parents Melvin and Flora Ayers; brother Mark and his wife Christine Ayers; nephew Alexander Ayers; and sister Michelle Glenn
- **DONATIONS:** In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the American Cancer Society, P.O. Box 22718, Oklahoma City, OK, 73123; or St. Mary's College High School, 1294 Albina Ave. in Berkeley, 94706

Mike Ayers, Albany school police officer, dies at 48

By Alan Lopez
STAFF WRITER

Mike Ayers, a 20-year veteran of the Albany police department and the first police officer assigned to patrol Albany High School, died recently of cancer. He was 48.

While the presence of an armed police officer proved controversial six years ago, Ayers championed the position and became a popular presence at the school.

"He was probably the best police officer I've worked with," Albany High School Principal Ron Rosenbaum said. "He was very consistent, he was very fair, very compassionate with kids."

As a teenager, Ayers was working at Winchell's Donuts in Albany when he got to know local police officers and became interested in police work.

After graduating from St. Mary's High School in 1975, the lifelong Albany resident joined the local police department as a volunteer reserve officer. From there, he joined the Kensington Police Department, then came back to Albany in 1986.

Albany Police Lt. Mike McQuiston, who will become the new police chief July 1, said Ayers was a dedicated officer who put together a formal field training program for new officers. McQuiston was the first to be trained under that program.

When the school resource officer position opened, Ayers jumped at it.

"I think going up there goes hand in hand with his work ethic," McQuiston said, "with his desire to want to go out and do the hard jobs."

See **AYERS**, Page A7



FAIRMONT PARENT volunteer Mario Sanchez checks on hot links in a solar oven during a cookout dubbed "To Feed A Village" on Wednesday. The food, including chocolate chip cookies, was all prepared in solar ovens.

Students tap solar power to cook lunch

Lunch at Fairmont Elementary School on Wednesday was far from normal cafeteria fare.

The entire school was treated to a "solar cookout" on the playground, in which each class prepared a dish using alternative energy.

The menu included Buffalo wings, meatballs, Mandarin chicken with rice, lemon curry chicken with rice, solar-grilled chicken with tortillas, California hot links, rosemary garlic chicken, teriyaki chicken, sweet-and-sour shrimp, vegetarian hot dogs with onions, solar s'mores and solar green tea with lemon.

Food for the event, dubbed "To Feed A Village," was prepared

LEARN MORE

To learn more about the PG&E Solar Schools program, visit www.nead.org/pgesolarschools.

To learn more about solar cooking, visit <http://solarcooking.org>.

in solar cookers that require no other power source.

The cookers trap heat by reflecting sunlight onto a customized dark pot.

In the process, students got a taste of ways to use alternative energy, as well as a lesson in meal planning.

The school bought the solar ovens with the \$2,500 grant

it received for the 2005-06 school year from the PG&E Solar Schools Program.

Fairmont was one of 29 schools in the utility's service area — and one of only two in Contra Costa County — to receive a grant.

The effort to land the grant was led by teacher Daneen Cali and parent Reyel Daystar, chairman of Fairmont's School Site Council.

Wednesday's cookout was also supported by funding from the National Energy Education Development Project, while food was provided by the El Cerrito Natural Grocery and the El Cerrito Trader Joe's.

— Chris Treadway

INSIDE

At the Library

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Martin Snapp

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NEWS BRIEFS

Albany

Taste of Albany scheduled for Sunday

More than 40 restaurants and entertainers will be featured in the fifth annual A Taste of Albany: A Small Town Walk-about, on Sunday on Solano Avenue.

Tickets are \$25 the day of the event or \$20 in advance.

The event, which will be held from 1 to 6 p.m., will feature cable car rides, children's entertainment, raffle prizes, arts and crafts from local artists, and more than 20 jazz groups. More than 20 restaurants will participate.

For more information, go online at www.tasteofalbany.com or call 510-525-1771.

— Alan Lopez

Youths invited to apply for classes, camps

Youths ages 12 to 18 wanting to volunteer for Albany's classes and camps have until Monday to apply. Applications, camp descriptions and schedules are available at the community center, 1249 Marin Ave., and online at www.albanyca.org.

— Alan Lopez

Mayor to discuss issues with residents

Mayor Allan Maris will host a coffee with residents to discuss city issues from 9:30-10:30 a.m. on Saturday at the PriPri Cafe, 1309 Solano Ave. Call 510-526-7032 for more information.

— Craig Lazzaretto

El Cerrito

Electronic waste drop-off event planned

The city will hold a free electronic waste drop-off event at City Hall from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday. The event is open to all residents and businesses. There are no residency restrictions.

The following e-waste will be accepted: computer monitors; computers/computer components; televisions; VCR and DVD players; toner cartridges; printers; fax machines; copiers; telephone equipment; cell phones; and MP3 players. Do not bring appliances, batteries, microwaves, paints, pesticides, etc.

Volunteers are needed to help welcome e-waste event participants and direct traffic. If interested, please call Alexis Petru at 510-215-4353.

— Craig Lazzaretto

Police to crack down on seat-belt violations

The Traffic Safety Division of the El Cerrito Police Department will be conducting directed patrols throughout the city as part of the state's "Click It or Ticket" seat-belt safety campaign through Monday. El Cerrito Police Department officers will issue tickets to persons not wearing seat belts.

The maximum fine for a seat-belt violation for a person over 16 years of age is \$91 for a first offense and approximately \$193 for a second offense. The 2005 California Seat Belt Use Survey revealed that 92.5 percent of vehicle occupants wear their seat belts.

— Craig Lazzaretto

City praises restaurant waste recycling

By Fred Dodsworth
EAST BAY DAILY NEWS

The city of Albany celebrated its recycling of 150 tons of restaurant waste this week. Next year the city hopes to increase that amount to 290 tons.

Albany restaurants and the city of Albany were recognized by Congresswoman Barbara Lee and Alameda County Supervisor Keith Carson for helping the county achieve its state-mandated goal of reducing waste.

"Albany has not only proven business can go green but it has shown us how going green creates sustainable jobs and sustainable communities," Lee said Tuesday.

On Earth Day last year, the city began the Green Albany Project. Founded by former Chamber of Commerce director James Carter and funded with a \$31,000 grant from StopWaste.org (formerly Waste Management) the

project was aimed at getting the business community to recycle.

"It seemed important for business to be part of the environmental movement, but business seemed to be left out," Carter said.

Eighty percent of restaurant waste is recyclable, said Carter, so the project targeted small, family-owned restaurants for an immediate impact.

"It really makes sense," said Jorge Sandoval, owner of Walker's Pie Shop. "For years I felt guilty about throwing all those food scraps in the garbage."

Now participating restaurants separate compostable material from trash and recyclable materials. The city charges 50 percent less to pick up compostables than it charges to pick up trash. Recyclable materials such as paper, glass and metals are picked up at no charge.

Teen trauma survivors find 'Sanctuary' in exhibit

By Chris Treadway
STAFF WRITER

The stories of 12 young men and women are told in an exhibition now on display in the sanctuary at Northminster Presbyterian Church in El Cerrito. Each has had to deal with a form of violence, including one who was shot and one who was pulled into a van and became the victim of a "drive-by" rape.

The circumstances each faced would be difficult enough for an adult to deal with. But these are teenagers. When the exhibition was being created, the 12 subjects were also students at El Cerrito High School, which is just across the street from the church.

Their experiences and the different methods they used to find solace and refuge from their traumas are the focus of "Sanctuary," a project created by the Youth Documentary Project at El Cerrito High School. The display, consisting of text and black-and-white photographs, debuted at the Richmond Art Center in 2004.

The public is invited to Northminster after services Sunday to see and experience the moving stories of how students found sanctuary. One finds help

IF YOU GO

The exhibition 'Sanctuary' can be seen from 1 to 3 p.m. Sunday in the sanctuary at Northminster Presbyterian Church, 545 Ashbury Ave. in El Cerrito. The church can be reached at 510-524-4401. Reach the El Cerrito High School Community Project at 510-524-8252.

through prayer, another through dreams. The exhibit was also displayed at the church after last Sunday's services.

A student tells about her mother, writing, "She did crack. It took her over. She was a survivor, and then she gave up." The student finds solace in her writing, calling it "a replacement for a parent. I want my writing to tell the story."

Another student, involved in violent incidents in his former home in East Oakland, now uses art as a means of expression, and says: "My life isn't about revenge anymore."

"It's incredibly powerful," said Beth Wheeler, the pastor at Northminster. "Most of us have no idea the kind of violence

"This is not a voyeuristic emphasis on violence, but something hopeful about the place where they get sanctuary."

— Fay Dillof, El Cerrito High School clinical coordinator

youths experience. It's also inspirational in terms of what they hope to do with their lives."

The text was compiled from interviews conducted by Fay Dillof, the clinical coordinator for the school's community project, and the images were produced by photography teacher Jeremiah Holland. The project, completed in addition to their regular duties, took more than a year to put together.

"This is not a voyeuristic emphasis on violence, but something hopeful about the place where they get sanctuary," Holland said. "It actually could be

called 'Creating Sanctuary' and end goal is helping people taking new steps and where they are and where they are going."

Dillof's challenge was to get the subjects to talk about their lives, Dillof said.

"I have a lot of respect for young people wanting to tell about the way violence affects their lives," Dillof said. "I get them to speak about that violence isn't OK with and ways they protect themselves."

Rather than focus on the violence itself, "I interviewed the students to find their other stories,"

Hosting the exhibit is an effort by Northminster to collaborate with its high school neighbor on issues of justice, Wheeler said.

Another project being discussed is construction of a wall, similar to one in Berkeley Civic Center Park that is with 5,000 handmade tiles. Wheeler envisions placing wall on public property that approves a location, or a of the church.

ALBANY POLICE REPORTS

Monday, May 22

■ **PURSE STOLEN** — Someone took a purse out of a green 1998 Dodge Caravan that was parked near the playground at Ocean View School on the 1000 block of Jackson Street at about 3 p.m.

■ **LICENSE PLATE STOLEN** — During the day, someone took the rear license plate off a blue 2001 Toyota Camry parked on the 1200 block of Solano Avenue.

■ **CAR TOWED** — At about 7 p.m., officers investigated a gold Honda Accord parked in a lot at a restaurant on the 500 block of San Pablo Avenue because the license plate belonged to a Mitsubishi. The driver was also found to be driving without a driver's license. The license plate was confiscated to be returned to the DMV, and the car was towed.

Tuesday, May 23

■ **OUTSTANDING WARRANT** — At about 1:30 a.m., officers stopped a gray 1989 Toyota Celica near San Pablo and Brighton Avenues for a vehicle code violation. They arrested the driver, a 22-year-old San Pablo man, for an outstanding Daly City warrant for assault, battery and resisting arrest.

Wednesday, May 24

■ **TOYOTA RECOVERED** — Richmond police located a white 1987 Toyota Camry that had been stolen from Albany but which had not been reported by the owner on the 800 block of Santa Fe Avenue.

Thursday, May 25

■ **DUI** — At about 3 a.m., officers arrested a 28-year-old Berkeley man driving a yellow 1972 International near Santa Fe and Marin avenues for DUI and driving without a license.

■ **ROBBERY** — At about 6:30 a.m., a man described as a black adult between 19 and 25 years of age, chunky build with a low haircut, wearing a black hooded sweatshirt and blue jeans, stole items from a business on the 1300 block of Solano Avenue. He was last seen

driving south on Ramona Avenue toward Marin Avenue in a new silver Dodge Charger. He was gone when officers arrived.

■ **SIGN STOLEN** — The owner of a business on the 1200 block of Solano Avenue reported that during the night someone took her curb sign.

Friday, May 26

■ **DUI** — Officers stopped a white 1993 Ford near Buchanan and Cerrito streets because the car did not have license plates. The driver, a 21-year-old Oakland man, was arrested for DUI.

■ **WHEELS STOLEN** — During the night, someone stole the four wheels off a silver 2001 BMW X5 parked on the 800 block of Washington Avenue.

■ **BURGLARY** — Officers arrested a 34-year-old man from Oakland at the Target store on the 1000 block of Eastshore for burglary.

■ **BURGLARY** — At about noon, officers responded to a business on the 500 block of Cleveland when the alarm company called to report the alarm going off. They were in time to capture the intruder, a 46-year-old Oakland man, and arrest him for burglary and possession of burglary tools.

■ **VANDALISM** — A resident on the 900 block of Neilson Street reported that her window had been broken by someone who may have shot at it.

■ **BURGLARY** — Someone stole a video game machine from a business on the 800 block of San Pablo Avenue.

■ **ROBBER ARRESTED** — At about 9 p.m., the owner of a business reported that someone, who had what appeared to be a gun, had just stolen cash from the register and the purse from a customer, then fled the store. Officers searched the area and arrested a 21-year-old Oakland woman for robbery, conspiracy and resisting arrest.

Saturday, May 27

■ **DRUNK IN PUBLIC** — Shortly before 4 a.m., officers contacted

two people in a green Honda in a parking structure on the 1200 block of Brighton Avenue for suspicious activity. They arrested the driver, a 19-year-old El Cerrito man, for disorderly conduct and driving with a suspended license. They also arrested the passenger, a 19-year-old Fairfield man, for disorderly conduct.

■ **DOUBLE ARREST** — At about 4:30 a.m., officers stopped a blue 2004 Ford on Second Street near University Avenue for a vehicle code violation. They arrested the driver, a Lodi man, for DUI. They also arrested the passenger, a 41-year-old Stockton man, for disorderly conduct.

■ **HONDA STOLEN** — During the night someone stole a red 1991 Honda Civic parked on the 700 block of Johnson Street. There were no witnesses.

■ **BICYCLE STOLEN** — Someone stole a bicycle that was chained to a house on the 700 block of Hillside Avenue by cutting the chain. There were no witnesses.

■ **TIRES SLASHED** — A resident on the 900 block of Kains Avenue reported that the tires of her black Buick had been slashed twice in the previous two nights. There were no witnesses.

■ **TOYOTA STOLEN** — During the night, someone stole a white 1982 Toyota Cressida that was parked on the 800 block of Hillside Avenue. There were no witnesses.

■ **AUTO BREAK-IN** — During the day, someone broke into a black 1996 Honda Accord parked in a parking garage of an apartment on the 1100 block of Brighton Avenue.

Sunday, May 28

■ **WEAPON ARREST** — At about 3 a.m., officers arrested a 41-year-old Oakland man for weapon possession at the dead-end of Buchanan Street.

■ **TRIPLE ARREST** — At about 4 a.m., officers stopped a gray 2002 Ford pickup near San Pablo Avenue and Central Avenue for a vehicle code violation. They arrested the driver, a 21-year-old Vallejo man, for DUI and driving without a license. They also arrested the passengers,

two Richmond men ages 22 and 23 for disorderly conduct.

■ **DOUBLE ARREST** — At about 11 a.m., officers responded to a Safeway store on the 1500 block of Solano Avenue on reports of someone attempting to pass counterfeit money. He was last seen walking near Solano Avenue. Officers located the man and arrested him for passing counterfeit money, money, conspiracy and kidnapping.

Monday, May 29

■ **OUTSTANDING WARRANT** — Officers stopped a red 1988 Buick near Buchanan and Filmore streets for a vehicle code violation. They arrested the driver, a 34-year-old Redwood man, for an outstanding warrant for petty theft.

■ **CAR TOWED** — At about 11 a.m., officers investigated a Honda parked at the dead end of Jackson Street because it did not have license plates and was illegally stolen. It was towed.

■ **HOUSEHOLD RECOVERED** — Shortly after noon, movers finished loading a moving van from a family on the 1100 block of Claymouth Street and were inside home completing the papers when someone stole the van. Shortly after the van was stolen in a hit-and-run accident, Berkeley but escaped apprehension. But all was not lost. At 9:30 p.m., California Highway Patrol reported that they had stopped van in Contra Costa County had the driver in custody. It appeared that nothing had been moved from the van, and the was notified.

Weekly summary

Officers responded to 295 calls, arrested 114 violators, issued 16 citations, stopped 15 vehicles, issued 15 citations and 99 warnings. Firefighters responded to 10 calls and 11 medical emergencies.

EL CERRITO POLICE REPORTS

Saturday, May 20

■ **BRANDISHING** — At 7:30 a.m., police arrested a 17-year-old girl on suspicion of threatening an elderly woman with a kitchen knife on the 5300 block of Cypress Avenue.

Tuesday, May 23

■ **THEFT ARRESTS** — At 12:40 p.m., police arrested two El Cerrito High students on suspicion of stealing a backpack. Police released the students to their parents and will forward the case to the juvenile probation department.

■ **INDECENT EXPOSURE** — Police arrested a 21-year-old Berkeley man on suspicion of exposing himself and masturbating in front of the Baskin Robbins ice cream parlor.

■ **DRUG ARREST** — At 3 p.m., police arrested a 41-year-old Richmond man on suspicion of possessing methamphetamine following a traffic stop on the 11500 block of San Pablo Avenue. Police searched the man's truck after he exhibited signs that he was under the influence of a drug. Police found glass pipes used to smoke methamphetamine and two grams of the drug. Police released the man pending results of lab tests.

— Craig Lazzaretto

EDITOR'S NOTE

Because of delays receiving information from the El Cerrito Police Department, the Journal is able to publish limited reports from that city this week.

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Craig Lazzaretto, Hills editor

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EDITORIAL

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THE JOURNAL

"... were it left to me to decide whether we should have a government without newspapers, or newspapers without a government, I should not hesitate a moment to prefer the latter."

— Thomas Jefferson

EDITORIAL

Vote yes on Albany parcel tax measures

WE ENCOURAGE Albany voters to vote yes on measures F and G when they go to the polls Tuesday. Both parcel tax measures represent sound investments in the physical and intellectual foundation of the city, and we believe their passage will pay dividends for the city's residents for years to come.

Measure F would tax homeowners \$96 a year to repair storm drains and streets. Last winter's heavy rains provided a clear reminder that Albany's aging infrastructure is in dire need of attention. Residents should not have to worry about the threat of seeing their homes unnecessarily flood each winter simply because the city's storm drains are too small. And we shouldn't be surprised to see future storm seasons like the one we just experienced (that's one of the effects of global warming).

According to a March report, the city has more than \$16 million in needed storm drain and street repairs. By passing Measure F, Albany can make an important down payment on that tab.

Albany's library may not be crumbling the way some of its streets are, but Measure G also represents an opportunity for residents to make their city a more attractive place to live. For a mere \$24 a year per homeowner, Measure G would raise money to open the library for four hours each Sunday.

Not many communities have the luxury of being able to visit their local library on Sundays. Yet for many, this is the day that makes the most sense. Work schedules often make it difficult to carve out time during the week for a trip to the library, and Saturdays are often consumed with kids' soccer or baseball games. The Alameda County Library, which runs the Albany branch, recently cut 18 hours of staff time at the library. Measure G gives residents a chance to add back some of those resources.

The city of Albany rightfully takes a great deal of pride in its fine school system, and the city's library is a natural extension of that. It not only gives children the opportunity to supplement the education they receive through the school system, but it also gives older adults the chance to satisfy their lifelong hunger for learning. After all, intellectual curiosity does not end when we graduate from high school or college.

Both of these parcel taxes will require a two-thirds majority to pass, not an easy bar to clear for any ballot measure, let alone ones that ask homeowners to increase their taxes. So it is essential that the voters of Albany understand what is at stake with these tax measures and embrace the potential they have to improve the quality of life for all. Given the fact that last November's school parcel tax passed by a slim margin, nothing should be taken for granted on election day.

While we enthusiastically support these two measures, we also encourage the city's leaders to aggressively pursue other means for raising revenues after this election. Albany's needs will not end with these two measures, and we don't believe taxpayers should bear an undue burden in meeting them. The city must find ways to pay for important issues other than continually turning to residents' bank accounts.

This should not be construed as an endorsement for any development that promises to pump additional money into the city's coffers. The city's leaders and residents should weigh carefully the pros and cons of any potential development, whether at the waterfront or elsewhere, before making a decision about whether it is in their best interest. While most of the current speculation and debate in the city focuses on the waterfront, we don't believe enough information is available at this time to make an assessment about whether a development there would enhance or detract from the quality of life in the city.

But we do look forward to seeing the city aggressively pursue the information necessary for residents to make informed decisions about the waterfront and other potential revenue-generating projects the city. Worthwhile causes such as measures G and F will undoubtedly arise in future elections. But we shouldn't assume residents will always be willing to foot the bill.

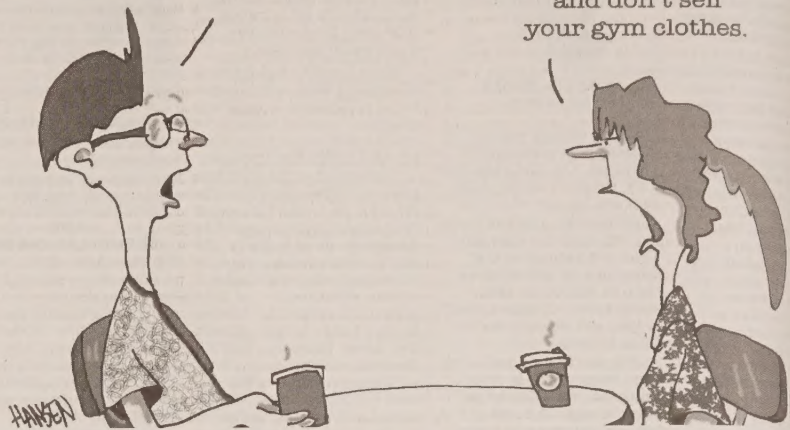
The city has more than \$16 million in needed storm drain and street repairs. By passing Measure F, Albany can make an important down payment on that tab.

JEFF HANSEN • HILLS NEWSPAPERS

THE SCHOOL YEAR IS JUST ABOUT OVER

What should I do if I don't pass this exit exam thing?

Make friends with Juniors and don't sell your gym clothes.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

We need to pass Measure G

As a child growing up in Albany, I spent many hours in the public library.

I distinctly remember when my mother first told us that we were not going to be able to visit the library on Sundays because of lack of funding. It confused me then, as it does today, that a community that prizes education would not do everything in its power to keep its library open seven days a week.

Now, as a voting and taxpaying adult, I am also a tutor at the Albany Library homework center (a free, quiet space for third to fifth graders, open two days a week). I get asked constantly by the kids I tutor why the homework center isn't open more often. I have to answer with the words California kids know so well by now: lack of funding.

We need to pass Measure G if we want to continue to identify ourselves as a community that values education and public programs.

I am voting "yes" on Measure G because I feel it is the bare minimum I can do to make sure the kids I tutor get the resources they need every day.

Diana Thow
Albany

Vote for measures F and G

A "yes" vote on Albany's Measure F would address two public health issues resulting from improper storm water system drainage: mold toxicity build-up and the proliferation of mosquitoes infected with West Nile Virus.

These are not individual homeowner problems. Addressing public health concerns benefits the whole town.

Albany has a delightful library, run by a bright, motivated staff and supported by ardent, dedicated volunteers. It can only get better with the library open for four additional hours on Sundays. Please vote "yes" on Measure G.

Valerie Cheasty
Albany

'Yes' on Measure G

Please vote "yes" on Albany's Measure G on Tuesday.

Measure G will fund four open hours for the Albany Library on Sundays and restore library staff hour cutbacks, resulting in increased service levels.

Voters may be interested to know Measure G funds will be placed in a special fund separate from other tax revenues. The funds cannot be used for any purpose other than to benefit the Albany Library.

The Albany Library Board will recommend the best way to spend Measure G funds to benefit the library.

Please help us all enjoy the many services at the Albany Library on Sunday afternoons in the near future!

Caryl O'Keefe
Albany

O'Keefe is a member of Friends of the Albany Library and Albany Library Board.

Kensington Hilltop School

Apologies to our El Cerrito neighbors and friends!

Many of you have thought for years that Kensington is a community of elitist snobs. Leslie Reckler's guest commentary (Journal, May 19) certainly reinforced that. Protect our school and our property values.

Kensingtonians were the force that unified our school district and opened enrollment to create diversity in all the district schools. Our family was one of many that chose to send their children to Adams Middle School and Kennedy High, where they got good academic skills and lessons in life. This is not the first time Kensington

Hilltop School has been over-enrolled. Living in Kensington has never been a guarantee of a space in Kensington school. Real estate agents should make that clear. Early registration is essential.

As a former Berkeley teacher, where kindergarten through second grade classes were kept to 22, I can tell you that your child will do much better and get more attention in a smaller class. Enlarged classes are not good for teachers or children.

I've been in full support of the recent renovation. Kensington, being almost on top of the Hayward fault, with a very old and over-crowded school building, was badly in need of the update.

However, I would not support further expansion. It would not be fair to the rest of the district. All children deserve good buildings and good teachers. Let's all work for that!

Joan Mueller
Kensington

Truth about shopping

One of the positions the Chamber of Commerce and foes of Caruso's development continually take is that a retail development at Golden Gate Fields will hurt business in Albany and destroy our small town atmosphere.

Consider, that by their own admission, businesses on Solano Avenue are hurting; they are run on a very small profit margin and, thus, are barely making it. So, we could all shop in our town now, regardless of the shoreline's outcome.

Nevertheless, I did a little research and found there are approximately 263 businesses in Albany. Out of that number, about 166 are service related and have been around for more than 15 years. More than 60 are food establishments, part of our lifestyle in Albany, and have also been here for a long time. Chances are we will continue to eat at our favorites.

That leaves around 40 other types of retail that could possibly "suffer" if we had another nice place to shop.

I ask all of you to look at where you buy your clothes, your shoes, your household products, gifts for others, etc. I suspect that if you are "shopping" on Solano, it is usually at the top. I bet if it is something special you want, you'll go to Fourth Street. And if you want a book or a record, you end up on Telegraph Avenue. Berkeley has long been the recipient of tax revenue from Albany residents. And if it is a holiday, I know you travel to one of those dreaded "chain" stores in a real mall.

It would be a huge asset to all Albany taxpayers to have the revenue and the beautiful restoration Caruso is proposing for the shoreline and surrounding area — bringing us some quality and unique specialty store and food establishments that only add to what we already have here. And keeping the area clean and weed free (unlike Solano Avenue), without burdening our city services, would make for a prideful, appealing destination.

I am sure those of you who care about

the Solano businesses will not change your shopping habits. For the rest of us who want to see the best of all scenarios, we can enjoy Albany's small town atmosphere, venture down to a usable waterfront, see civic improvements all around us without being cash-strapped, and continue our support of our favorite. Truly the best of both worlds!

Suzan Smith
Albany

School board's rejection of K-8 proposal

The West Contra Costa school district is in a huge crisis. While the school population in the area is increasing, enrollment in the public schools is declining; the loss is greatest among students of middle-school age.

Parents are clearly dissatisfied with the district's middle schools. Because of the decline in enrollment, the district has lost more than \$10 million and 171 teaching positions in the last two years alone.

The school board was presented with an opportunity to stem the exodus of middle-school age students by extending several elementary schools from sixth to eighth grade (K-8 schools). School districts across the country, motivated by research showing academic and social benefits of K-8 schools, have embraced this approach.

Parents here want the school board to do the same. A recent survey of parents found that many families throughout the district want the opportunity to send their children to K-8 schools.

But the school board, in a 3-2 vote, rejected a thoughtful and thorough proposal that would give families an alternative to the district's failing middle schools, keep them in the district, and would save millions of dollars each year.

The board has failed to heed the wishes of families from all parts of the district who want their children to have the benefits of K-8 schools. Families will continue to leave the district's schools, and the crisis will only deepen.

Colleen Mullen
Kensington

Caruso developments

It was brought to our attention, while we were visiting Albany, that Rick Caruso is under consideration to develop a shopping mall at the site of the north parking lot of the racetrack.

We live in Westlake Village, where Caruso has created three beautiful projects: the Promenade in Westlake Village, the Lakes in Thousand Oaks, and the Commons in Calabasas.

The Promenade was his first development here. It was met with much assistance at first. Caruso spent much time and effort discussing options with the residents and really taking into consideration their concerns and desires.

He then created a beautiful center that has become a source of pride in our community. Besides the functional part of providing a movie theater, restaurants, retail, he architecturally exceeded all expectations we had. He created an environment that is welcoming to children and adults, both as residents and visitors.

We do not personally know Rick Caruso or anyone that works on his projects. We have no vested interest except wanting our family member who lives in Albany to be able to enjoy all the wonderful attributes that a Caruso development will bring to her community.

Therefore, it goes without saying, we encourage the city of Albany to support Rick Caruso and his development to create a beautiful social area for residents and visitors.

Howard and Vickie
Westlake Village

YOUR ELECTED OFFICIALS

Assembly

Loni Hancock: (D-14th District: Albany, Berkeley, El Cerrito, El Sobrante, Emeryville, Kensington, Richmond, San Pablo, North and West Oakland) State Capitol, P.O. Box 942849, Sacramento, CA 94249, 916-319-2014. Fax: 916-319-2114; 918 Parker St., Ste. A13, Berkeley, CA 94710, 510-540-3660; Fax: 510-540-3655; 712 El Cerrito Plaza, El Cerrito, CA 94530, 510-559-1406. Fax: 510-559-1478

AC Transit

Joe Wallace: Ward 1 (West Contra Costa and Northern Alameda counties). E-mail: jwallace@actransit.org; phone 510-891-7143; fax 510-234-7669.

Stegs Sanitary District

Phone 510-524-4668 or see online at www.stegsd.dst.ca.us.

County Supervisors

John Gioia: (1st District) 11780 San Pablo Ave., Suite D, El Cerrito, CA 94530,

510-374-3231. Fax: 510-374-3429. E-mail: dist1@bos.co.contra-costa.ca.us.

Keith Carson: (5th District) 1221 Oak St., Ste. 536, Oakland, CA 94612, 510-272-6695. Fax: 510-271-5151. E-mail: kcarson@co.alameda.ca.us.

Cities

El Cerrito: City offices, 10890 San Pablo Ave., El Cerrito, 510-215-4300. E-mail: citycouncil@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us

Albany: City offices, 1000 San Pablo Ave., Albany, 510-528-5710.

Kensington: Fire Protection District

217 Arlington Blvd. 510-527-8395

Police Protection and Community Services District 217 Arlington Blvd.

510-526-4141

School boards

West Contra Costa Unified School District: 510-620-2246

Albany Unified School District: 510-558-3766

Words to new graduates The worth remembering

You have been given the chance to take leadership."

Dr. Blanche Woolls, professor and director emerita, San Jose State University School of Library and Information Science, Commencement 2006



JULIE WINKELSTEIN
At the Library

fession of librarian. How it's changing, yet staying the same. How when I look fondly around the room at my fellow graduates, I wish I were seeing more diversity. How I was changed in the three years I attended graduate school, because I became more than a practicing librarian—I became a professional. But no one asked me to speak up, and in an act of great self-control, I didn't stand up and express my opinions.

There were speakers, of course. The first was the new director of the library school, Ken Haycock. He talked about the mission and vision of the library school, and described a few of the new courses and procedures he has implemented in his brief tenure. Barbara Conrey, who is the associate dean of the College of Applied Sciences and Arts, followed him. Her remarks were quick and direct, and I appreciated her final words: "Merge into the world and make your mark."

Marsha Schnirring, the student speaker, spoke of potential, change and possibilities. She commented, too, on the fact that no one remembers what is said by graduation speakers, and I agree—without my new SJSU pen and the back of the program, I would probably not have remembered what anyone said.

Blanche Woolls was the keynote speaker. Her theme was changes, constants and trading places. Perhaps the most inspiring part of her kind and thoughtful speech was her reminder to all of us that we must protect the rights of others to have free access to information. This sentiment, above all others, received a round of applause and, for a brief moment, brought us together not as fellow students but as fellow librarians.

Reach librarian Julie Winkelstein at jwinkelstein@aclib.org or at the Albany Library, 510-526-3720, Ext. 17.

LIBRARY ACTIVITIES

Albany Library

1247 Marin Ave.
510-526-3720 or www.aclibrary.org
Hours: Mondays, noon to 6 p.m.; Tuesdays, noon to 8 p.m.; Wednesdays, noon to 8 p.m.; Thursdays, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Fridays, closed; Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

■ The library invites preschoolers and their families to Preschool Storytime Saturday at 11 a.m. This 30-minute drop-in event is for 3- to 5-year-olds, and includes stories, songs, books and a simple craft. No registration required.

■ The library's teen movie program continues June 7 with "Kiki's Delivery Service" by legendary anime director Hayao Miyazaki. This will be the final film in the series (the July film has been canceled). The film starts at 5 p.m. and finishes by 7:15 p.m. at the latest. For information, visit the teen area at the Albany Library or contact Teen Services Librarian Julia Witwer at Ext. 20.

■ Free drop-in homework help is available for students in third through fifth grades. The homework center is open Mondays and Thursdays (except county holidays), from 3 to 5:30 p.m. Emphasis is placed on math and writing skills. No registration is required. For more information, call Julie Winkelstein at Ext. 17 or e-mail jwinkelstein@aclib.org.

■ Weekly singalongs are held Wednesdays at 4:30 p.m. with Dale Allen Boland. The sessions are free and for all ages. No registration required. Call Julie Winkelstein at Ext. 17.

■ Drop-in knitting groups for all ages are held Tuesdays at 3:30 p.m. Work on your own project or make pet blankets and children's hats for victims of recent disasters. Instructions, yarn and needles are provided for library projects. No registration is necessary. For more information, contact Julie Winkelstein at Ext. 17.

library offers hourlong appointments Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays. Its Internet docents will help you learn as much as you would like. Call the library to make an appointment.

El Cerrito Library

6510 Stockton Ave.
510-526-7512 or www.cclib.org

Hours: Mondays and Tuesdays, noon to 8 p.m.; Wednesdays, closed; Thursdays, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Fridays, 1 to 5 p.m.; Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

■ The library will offer a free beginning Internet class on finding magazine articles Saturday at 10 a.m. It lasts one hour.

■ Magic and giant puppets come to the library Saturday, June 10, at 11 a.m. when ventriloquist Tony Borders presents his show "Talk to the Animals!" Children of all ages and their parents are invited to enjoy the show and learn more about the Contra Costa County Library's 2006 Kids' Summer Reading Program "Paws, Claws, Scales and Tales."

■ Jeremy Shafer will present a one-man show Saturday, June 10, at noon featuring transforming origami, juggling, magic, comedy, unicycling and more. The program is free for all teens in grades 6 through 12.

■ The library will offer a series of Monday evening story times from June 26-July 31 at 7 p.m. for ages 3 and older.

■ Readers Anonymous book club meets at 7 p.m. the fourth Tuesday of the month. Future titles: June 27: "Gilded" by Marilynne Robinson; July 25: "Stones for Ibarra" by Harriet Doerr.

■ If you would like to learn about the Internet or basic word processing, the

Kensington Library

61 Arlington Ave.
510-524-3043 or www.cclib.org

Hours: Mondays and Tuesdays, noon to 8 p.m.; Wednesdays, closed; Thursdays, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Fridays, 1 to 5 p.m.; Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

■ The next meeting of the library's book club will be Monday, June 26, at 7 p.m. The group will discuss "A Fine Balance" by Rohinton Mistry. Future titles: July 24: "The Sea Wolf" by Jack London; Aug. 28: "How the Garcia Girls Lost Their Accents" by Julia Alvarez; Sept. 25: "Huckleberry Finn" by Mark Twain; Oct. 23: "The Piano Tuner" by David Mason.

■ Pastel paintings by Oakley artist Nancy Roberts will be featured through June 15 at the library. In her "Delta Series," Roberts explores the intricate structure of bare trees and shimmering reflections, while her still lifes and florals present a lively new take on familiar subjects.

■ Meet real wild animals during Bonnie Cromwell's Classroom Safari on Tuesday, May 23, at 6:30 p.m. All ages are welcome.

■ A family story time will be held Tuesday, May 30, at 7 p.m. All ages are welcome (best for preschool and older).

■ "Castoffs," the library's knitting club, will meet next Monday at 7 p.m. for an evening of knitting, show-and-tell and yarn exchange. All levels are welcome, and some help will be provided. This group meets the first

Monday of every month at 7 p.m.

■ The library invites you to kick off the Summer Reading Program with Desert Dave and some of his highly original pets at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, June 13. Also, enjoy a special story time with children's author Gretchen Woelfle at 7 p.m. Tuesday, June 27. She will share her book "Animal Families, Animal Friends."

■ The library launches a series of Saturday afternoon programs at 2 p.m. June 24 when Guide Dogs for the Blind of Marin County presents Jan Robitscher and her seeing-eye dog Christmas.

Contra Costa County

■ Contra Costa County Library's summer reading program will run June 12-Aug. 21. Follow the animal tracks on your reading record to fun and prizes during the kids reading program, "Paws, Claws, Scales and Tales," for children through grade 5. See what's lurking around the corner for all teens who read during "Creative Feature: Teens Read 2006," for teens in grades 6-12. The library also introduces the first annual adult reading program for everyone age 18 and older. Simply read and submit a raffle ticket for your chance to win exciting prizes in weekly countywide drawings held throughout the summer. For more information or to get started, please contact your community library: call 800-984-4636 or visit www.cclib.org.

—Craig Lazeretti

E-mail library activity items to journal@cctimes.com, or fax to 510-262-2776, or mail to The Journal, 4301 Lakeside Drive, Richmond, CA 94806.

Tilden provides action for toddlers, parents

THIS SATURDAY will be a good day for young children and their families at Tilden Regional Park in Berkeley, where naturalist Linda Yemoto plans some toddler-friendly activities.

From 10:30 to 11:30 a.m., Linda will lead a walk for 2- and 3-year-olds and their grown-up friends to explore the Tilden Nature Area in search of lizards and other reptiles. Then from 2 to 3 p.m. there'll be an expedition to Tilden's ponds to look for dragonfly nymphs, mayfly naiads and other aquatic life. All ages are welcome on the pond trip. Both activities are free. For information, phone 510-525-2233.

Then on Thursday, June 8, Linda will host Tilden Tots, a pond program for 3- and 4-year-olds, each accompanied by an adult. It's from 10 to 11:30 a.m., there's a fee of \$6



NED MACKAY
Park It

(\$8 for non-District residents), and registration is required. Phone 510-636-1684 and refer to registration number 11994.

Saturday is also National Trails Day. In observance, the Park District and Recreational Equipment Inc. are cosponsoring a trail rehabilitation project at Tilden Regional Park. From 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., volunteers will perform work such as

pruning, erosion repair and trail tread improvements on the trail network within the Tilden Nature Area.

Volunteers are asked to bring gloves, snacks and water. Other refreshments will be provided. No dogs, please. The project is geared for ages 10 and older. To obtain more information or sign up, phone REI at 510-527-7386, ext. 259.

There's also a volunteer project to remove French broom scheduled for 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. this Saturday at Redwood Regional Park in Oakland. If you're interested, meet at the park's Wayside Picnic Area overflow parking lot. Wayside is accessed via the

park's Redwood Road entrance, about a mile and a half east of the Redwood Road-Skyline Boulevard intersection in Oakland.

For information, phone Jil Kiernan of the Park District staff at 925-756-0195.

Circle the date on your calendar, and draft your architectural plans now! The 40th annual Sand Castle and Sand Sculpture Contest takes place from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday, June 17, at Crown Beach in Alameda. It's almost as much fun to watch as it is to participate.

See PARK IT, Page A6

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EL CERRITO SCHOOL NOTES

El Cerrito High School

GRAD NITE VOLUNTEERS: Volunteers are still needed to help with Grad Nite at the Turf Club on June 10 for any of these two-hour shifts: Midnight-2, 2-4, 3-5 a.m. (or whatever you can do to help out). Parent volunteers will provide security during the event (mainly watching the exits) and will be needed throughout the evening to supervise various games and activities. Anyone interested in volunteering and helping with this event should contact Carol Rhodes at caroldavishomes@aol.com or necklacelady@aol.com.

Harding Elementary

CLASS ACTIVITY: On Tuesday, June 6,

sixth-grade students will wear togas, re-create chariot races on the blacktop, and do other fun activities as part of their Greek and Roman history unit.

PTA MEETING: The last PTA Meeting will be at 7 p.m. on Monday, June 5 in the Harding Library. Child care will be provided.

GRADE 6 OPENINGS: Harding has a few openings in grade six for next school year. For more information, call the Harding office at 510-231-1413 before June 9.

BARBECUE: Celebrate the last day of the school year on Friday, June 9, with a potluck/barbecue for Harding families beginning at 6 p.m. Bring items to grill and a side dish to share. Everyone is welcome. For more information, please call Liz at 510-525-4502.

tion, please call Liz at 510-525-4502.

Madera Elementary

LIBRARY INVENTORY: It's time for the yearly library inventory. Please come to the Madera Library on Wednesday, June 7, anytime from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. to help Dolores Thompson, school librarian.

Kensington Elementary

ROMEO AND JULIET: Jim Aiken's fifth grade class will perform the play "Romeo and Juliet" at 7 p.m. today in the multipurpose room. Family and friends are invited.

— Craig Lazeretti

ALBANY SCHOOL NOTES

Albany High School

T-SHIRT CONTEST: All budding artists are invited to submit designs for the back of the Albany Music Fund T-shirt for next year. Enjoy your five minutes of fame. See your signature on the design worn all around the school next year and compete for the prize awarded to the winner. Details are in the front office, where you can submit your design.

TASTE OF ALBANY: The 2006 Grad Nite Parent Committee has been granted approval by the Albany Chamber of Commerce to earn 20 percent of each ticket sold for "A Taste of Albany" this Sunday. The money earned by the committee will help defray costs of the 2006 Grad Night Party, June 16. The 2006 Grad Night Committee will only earn money on tickets sold in advance, at \$20 per person. Checks should be made out to "Albany Chamber of Commerce," should indicate the check is for "A Taste of Albany" + Grad Nite Party. Mail checks to Christine Khan (parent of Caleb), at 956 Ordway St., Albany 94706. Make arrangements to pick up your tickets at 510-524-7004 or hao_kco@earthlink.net.

COUGAR AWARDS: The Cougar student newspaper won several recent awards, including the Scholastic Press Association award for the paper as a whole and the Press Women/SF Press club awards recognizing individual journalists. The awards include: First place — American Scholastic Press Association 2006 Scholastic Newspaper awards to Becca Pickus and Sonja Prins, editor; Northern California Press Women/San Francisco Press Club 2006 Student Journalism Competition awards for cartooning to Amalia Nelson-Croner — third place, "Lost in Translation"; to columnist Julia Greenwood — second place, "Greenwood Gabs"; for feature articles to Laura Marostica — third place, "Let's talk religion," and Ellen Streit — honorable mention, "Classrooms promote diversity," for feature photo to Lauren Ford — first place, "Not just black and white," for sports photo to Lauren Ford — second place, "Power Puff Fiasco," for graphics/photo illustration to Amalia Nelson-Croner — second place.

"Race, religion and culture at AHS," Eunice Kim — honorable mention, "Under the influence," and Jessica Tan — honorable mention, "Defending free speech," for opinion articles to Becca Pickus — second place, "Defending free speech," for page layout to Brendan Irvine-Broque — second place, "Education," and Sonja Prins and Amalia Nelson-Croner — honorable mention, "Race, religion and culture."

Albany Middle School

E-TREE NEWS: Karen McKeown has taken over the administration of the AMS e-tree. To post anything to the e-tree, please e-mail it to kzmckeown@yahoo.com. Please manage your own AMS e-tree subscription. Visit <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/AlbanyMiddleSchool/>. You will be

prompted to get a Yahoo ID and password in order to sign in. If you don't have a Yahoo ID, please create one by following the directions on the screen to "JOIN." Families of eighth graders are invited to subscribe to the AHS PTA e-tree, AHS news. The AHS e-tree is the main vehicle for getting information at the high school. You will receive the Daily Bulletin (which is read to the students every morning); information regarding counseling, college, testing, and careers; announcements for school events and community meetings; PTA and school board newsletters, agendas, and minutes; calls for volunteers, etc. To subscribe, please send a blank e-mail to AHSnews-subscribe@yahoo.com. When registering, you will need to sign in with a Yahoo ID (just create one if you don't already have one) and a password.

SPRING CONCERT: Come enjoy the talented voices, harmonies and delightful musical selections from choral director Kathie Jordan and the middle school singers at the choir's spring concert, Wednesday, June 7, from 7-9 p.m. in the AHS Little Theater.

PROMOTION EXERCISE: The promotion exercise is on June 15, from 5-6 p.m. at the Albany High School gym. Please check with your child. An informational sheet regarding the promotion exercise went out to your child recently at Advisory.

ORIENTATION: AMS orientation for all students will be on Tuesday, Aug. 29. For seventh and eighth graders it will be from 1-2:45 and for incoming sixth graders it will be from 3-4 p.m. The first day of school is Wednesday, Aug. 30.

Cornell Elementary

SILLY OLYMPICS: The PTA's Silly Olympics Festival is Saturday from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., and features fun activities and games for the kids, a food sale, a silent auction, a cake walk, crawling through a maze made of cardboard boxes, water balloon relays, and more. To make this event successful, at least 200 parent volunteers are needed, and it's not too late to offer to help. Please call Lisa, Silly-O volunteer coordinator, at 510-558-0369.

LOST AND FOUND: Please come and look through the lost-and-found box. It is overflowing. Items will be given away to a local charity after June 16.

COMBINATION CLASSES: With each new year's enrollment, it is possible that Cornell will have combination classrooms at some grade levels. Combination classes can offer students a broad age and performance range. Often younger students benefit from the challenge of working with older students, and older students develop self-confidence and leadership skills.

STORE CERTIFICATES: Sales of Ranch 99 store certificates will change from Friday mornings to Wednesday

mornings at the usual place outside the multipurpose room. Questions? Call Delilah Chan at 510-918-5879.

CORNELL CREW: The PTA wishes to thank Cornell parent Reece Halpern for coming up with the concept of the Cornell CREW to encourage volunteerism at school. He not only took the time to research and produce a well-thought-out plan for recruiting and recognizing volunteers, he has also graciously offered to have his Albany business, Common Sense Legal Counsel/Halpern Law Office, underwrite the cost of starting the Cornell CREW, including some cool T-shirts. You can contact Reece to find out more the Cornell CREW at cornellcrewclub@yahoo.com or 510-527-4337.

Ocean View Elementary

BBO DAY: Barbecue Day is Wednesday, June 14. If you would like your child to have a barbecue lunch, the cost is \$3, payable to AUUSD. Fill out a lunch envelope in the office and include your payment. Please also let the teacher know in advance if your child does not normally eat a school lunch.

Education Funders

SCHOOLCARE: School sites are determining their priorities for programs and services for the school year starting in the fall, and the district will soon be making its allocations of SchoolCARE dollars, stretching them to cover as many items on each school site's wish list as possible. If you haven't sent in your SchoolCARE donation yet, now is the time. You can mail your check to SchoolCARE, 1563 Solano Avenue, #537, Albany, CA 94707, visit the Web site at www.AlbanySchoolCARE.org, e-mail for information to AlbanySchoolCARE@aol.com, or call Sue Mellers at 510-524-3786. Every dollar counts.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT: Looking for a way to thank your child's teacher for a great year? How about a gift certificate for "Food for Thought," the Solano Grill & Bar's monthly benefit for the Albany Education Foundation? FTF occurs the fourth Thursday of every month. Solano Grill and Bar will donate \$20 to the Albany Education Foundation for each coupon presented. Gift certificates may be used during the month of choice. The Solano Grill & Bar is at 1133 Solano Ave. in Albany. You can contact it at 510-525-9686 or <http://www.solanogrillandbar.com/>. Gift certificates can be purchased any day during business hours.

MUSIC FUND MEETING: The next meeting of the Albany Music Fund is Wednesday, June 14, at 7 p.m. in the Albany High School library.

— Bob Menzimer

E-mail school notes items to Bob Menzimer at megabob@pacbell.net.

Calendar

Submissions to the Community Calendar must be received Thursdays one week prior to publication. Listings are on a space-available basis. Mail submissions to Pam Middings, 1516 Oak St., Alameda, CA 94501; e-mail them to voice@cctimes.com, pmiddings@cctimes.com or fax them to 510-748-1680. Call 510-748-1683 if you have questions.

Coming Up

Literary events

Actors Reading Writers: Celebrating Writing through Live Readings, June 5, 7:30 p.m., Berkeley City Club, 2315 Durant Ave., Berkeley. "English Eccentrics," stories by Alan Bennett and PG. Wodehouse, 7 p.m., piano music by Paul Bregman. Free. Book exchange, bring or take a book.

Mrs. Dalloway's Literary and Garden Arts — Readings at 2904 College Ave., Berkeley, June 3, 3 p.m., Keesia Meadows, author of "Making Gardens Works of Art," gives garden demonstration. June 4, 1 p.m., Maxine Rose Schur reads from "Places in Time: Reflections on a Journey." June 6, 7 p.m., Linda Donn reads from "The Little Ballonist." June 7, 3:30 p.m., Monica Wood reads from "Any Bitter Thing." June 8, 7 p.m., Michael Pollan reads from "The Omnivore's Dilemma." June 13, 8 p.m., Andrew Dean Nystrom presents slideshow to accompany "Top Trails: Yellowstone & Grand Teton National Parks." June 15, 7 p.m., Sandy Tolman reads from "The Lemon Tree: An Arab, a Jew, and the Heart of the Middle East." Details: mrsdalloways.com.

Poetry Express — Mondays, 7 p.m., Priya Indian Cuisine, 2072 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley. Weekly open mike hosted by Mark Stases. Coming up: June 5: Avotcja, Ramon Pineda. June 12: John Rowe. June 19: Tim Nuveen. June 26: open mike theme night "the blues." Details: berkeleypoetryexpress@yahoo.com.

Rhythm and Muse — 7 p.m., Berkeley Art Center, 1275 Walnut St. Piano & two mics available. Free; donations appreciated. Upcoming: June 24, Marc

Hofstadter. Details: 510-644-6893 or 510-527-9753. — June 10, 7-9 p.m. in Celebration of Swimming, Wisdom Tales, Swimming Lore, and Water Music featuring our master Sidi Yassin; Blythe Lucero, Masters swim coach. 7-7:30 p.m., open mic. Donations benefit public pool use for homeless and low income youth. Details: Gael 510-548-9050, gael@glotrans.com.

Black Oak Books — Free readings 7:30 p.m. at 1491 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, June 14, Michael Leamer reads from "The Right Hand of God: Taking Back Our Country from the Religious Right." — June 27, Victor Navsky reads from "A Matter of Opinion." — July 16, Norma Barzman reads from "The End of Romance: A Memoir of Love, Sex, and the Mystery of the Violin." Details: 510-486-0698, blackoakbooks.com.

Meetings

California Writers' Club — Berkeley Branch meeting, June 3, 10 a.m.-12 p.m., Barnes & Noble Booksellers, Event Loft, 98 Broadway, Jack London Square, Oakland. "The Hippo and the Dragonfly: Visions of Young Writers," Winners of 5th grade writing contest featured. Free. Details: 510-272-0120, berkeleywritersclub.org.

East Bay Atheists — June 3, 2-5 p.m., Berkeley's Main Library, 2090 Kittridge St., 3rd floor meeting room. Video screening of Evolutionary Biology professor Richard Dawkins discussing ways in which to address arguments of Creationists against evolution. Details: Larry 510-222-7580.

El Cerrito Garden Club — June 8, 11:30 a.m., El Cerrito Community Center, 7007 Mooser Lane, El Cerrito. 50th anniversary celebrated. Social time in garden, then luncheon, history & highlights, introduction of charter members, installation of officers. Details: 510-526-2976.

Community

Blood drives — American Red Cross, June 2, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., 5th

See CALENDAR, Page A7



KENT J. FARNEY, M.D.

KAREN VAN LEUVEN, PH.D., FNP

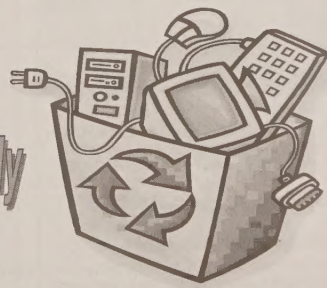
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Park It

FROM PAGE A5

Cosponsored by the Park District, Alameda Recreation & Parks, and the Bay View Women's Club, the contest is free. Competition is fierce in the castle and sculpture categories in youth, family and adult divisions. Winners get ribbons, trophies and bragging rights. The Crown Beach entrance is located at the intersection of Shore Line Drive and Otis Drive in Alameda. For information, phone 510-521-6887.

Ned MacKay writes about East Bay Regional Park District sites and activities. E-mail him at nedmackay@comcast.net.

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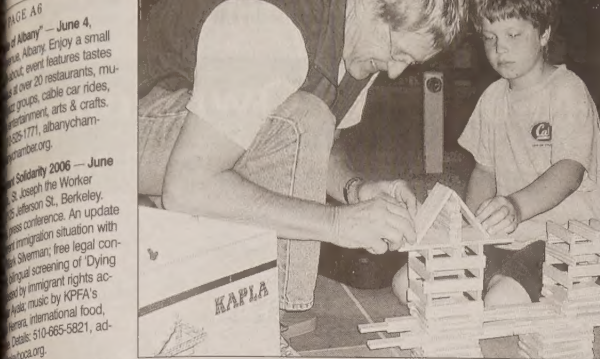
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Calendar



LAWRENCE HALL OF SCIENCE

LAWRENCE HALL OF SCIENCE is featuring a hands-on KAPLA block exhibit through Sept. 3. The hall has more than 50,000 of the pine blocks that exhibit-goers can build into architectural structures of whimsical creatures. Lawrence Hall of Science is open daily, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., on Centennial Drive below Grizzly Peak Boulevard in Berkeley. Admission is \$9.50 for adults; \$7.50 for students 18 and younger, seniors and the disabled; and \$5.50 for children ages 3 and 4. For information, call 510-642-5132 or visit lawrencehallofscience.org.

your name, address, telephone number, e-mail address if you have one. Details: 510-525-1771.

- **Punks for Pets concert fund-raiser** — June 10, 8 p.m., 924 Gilman St., Berkeley. Bands include Uptones, Plus Ones, Abi Yo Yo, Annie Sanders, Ghost Next Door. Proceeds benefit Berkeley-East Bay Humane Society. \$6. Details: berkeleyhumane.org, 924gilman.org.
- **Live Oak Park Fair** — June 10-11, 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Live Oak Park, 1301 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. Arts and crafts showcase features 125 local artists and craftspeople. Handcrafted jewelry, ceramics, woodwork, clothing, paintings, photography, toys, art glass, more. Children's entertainment, live music by Jazzschool, food & drink. Details: 510-898-3282, liveoakparkfair.com.
- **Community Labyrinth Peace Walk** — June 11, 3 p.m., Willard Middle School, 2425 Stuart St., Berkeley. All welcome, rain cancels. June 11: rededication guided by Margie Adam. — June 10, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., labyrinth re-painting; volunteers needed. Details: Nina@NinaHarm.com, 510-526-7377.
- **Albany Senior Center** — 846 Masonic Ave., Albany. June 14, 10:30-11:30 a.m., Traditional Dances to Reconnect with the Earth. No special ability required. Donation to ASC requested. Details: Catherine 510-528-2261.

she would give him a smile and a greeting:

"What you doing Money Mike? What's going on? What's up player?"

Other students recalled Ayers coaching them on Albany Little League teams.

"He was a community police officer long before the buzzword of community policing ever came out," brother Mark Ayers said.

Earlier this year, the effects of melanoma made Mike Ayers too sick to work. The police department is down six officers, Police Greg Bone said, and it will be up to the school district and

■ **RabbitEARS Dog Wash fund-raiser** — June 17, 12-4 p.m., RabbitEARS Adoption Store, 303 Arlington Ave., Kensington. Bring your dirty dog for an old-fashioned dog wash, warm-water hosing and drying. Donations earmarked for spray/neuter in Contra Costa County. RabbitEARS one year birthday cake for clean dogs, people. Details: 510-525-6155, felpets@yahoo.com.

Outdoors

■ **Recreational Equipment Inc.** — Free events at 1338 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley. — June 4, 18: 10-11 a.m., Hands-on Bicycle Clinic. — June 3, 8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m., Tilden Regional Park, Berkeley. National Trails Day celebrated with Service Projects. Volunteers needed to assist in maintaining narrow trails which need improvement; drainage, outcropping, pruning, etc. Maps with directions provided. Volunteers should bring hat, gloves, sunscreen, water, dress in layers and wear long sleeved shirts, long pants, and sturdy shoes. Work until 12:30, then lunch is included. Please no pets. Pre-registration required: call 510-527-7386 x259. — June 6, 7 p.m., Pack Light, Pack Right: Tips for Comfort on the Trail. — June 27, 7 p.m., Great Weekend Camping and Backpacking Trips in Northern California Wilderness Areas. Details: 510-527-4140 or rei.com/stores.

■ **University of California Botanical Garden** — 200 Centennial Drive, Berkeley. June 3, July 1, 9 a.m.-12 p.m., Sick Plant Clinic. — June 13, 6-8 p.m., "In the Company of Wild Butterflies" Film. \$8-\$10. Q&A follows. — June 15, 10:30 a.m.-12 p.m., Summer Family Fun Day. Children with an adult can enjoy a hands-on investigation, start a mini-garden, see Garden with new eyes through art and math. Third Thursdays monthly: July 20, Aug. 17. Activities change monthly. Picnic lunches encouraged. \$14-\$18; price includes one parent and one child, additional adult or children per family \$7 each. Details: 510-643-2755 or botanicalgarden.berkeley.edu.

■ **Berkeley Path Wanderers Association** — June 10, 10 a.m., Berkeley's Willard Park Area. Meet at Russell Street by the streetcar bend near Regent Street. Exploration of architecture and

fascinating remnants of local history. Itinerary/Information at well.com/~ronks/pw/willardplus/. Moderate, mostly flat walk. — July 8, 10 a.m., meet at Channing Way and 10th Street. Exploration of Southwest Berkeley's fascinating industrial and working-class history; imaginative and architecturally exciting re-uses; and an urban greenway a-borning. Walk is moderate, level, fairly long; wear comfortable shoes and bring water. Free. Details: 510-848-9358, f5creeks@aol.com.

Children/teens

■ **California Girls Basketball Camps** — Haas Pavilion, UC Berkeley. June 3, Parent/Child Clinic for grades K-8, boys and girls. \$100 per parent/child pair, \$25 per additional child. — June 4, Jamfest Team Camp. High School, Junior Varsity, Middle School, AAU teams welcome. \$30/team. — June 19-22, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Day Camp I for grades 4-12. \$325. — June 30-July 2, Elite Camp for grades 9-12. \$325-\$400. — July 10-13, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Day Camp 2 for grades 4-12. \$325. — July 24-27, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Junior Cub Camp for grades K-6. \$325. Details: 510-642-9448.

■ **Habitat Children's Museum** — Events at 2065 Kittredge St., Berkeley. June 7, Environmental Health Day. 10-11 a.m., bring items from home like pottery, jewelry, toys, kids' lunch boxes for lead testing. 11 a.m.-1 p.m., Center of Environmental Health will be on hand. — June 9, Safe Kids Day. 11 a.m.-1 p.m., kids receive photo ID cards. Fingerprinting kits for kids. — June 10, 1-5 p.m., Father's Day and Summer Portraits taken. Photo packages \$15+. — June 14, 9:30 a.m.-1 p.m., Flag Day celebration. Help create a giant U.S. flag by adding red, white, blue objects to a group art project, to be donated to local veteran's organization. — July 10-Aug. 28, 8 week-long sessions of Camp Habitat. For kids 2-5 years old. Play with other children, free play with toys/puzzles, circle time, dramatic play with costumes, museum visits, cooking, story-

telling, art, music, dance. Morning or afternoon sessions. \$165-\$195. Details: 510-647-1111 or habitol.org.

■ **Summer Theatre Intensive** — Berkeley Repertory School of Theatre, 2071 Addison St., Berkeley. Students in grades 6-12 create & perform a play. Session 1: June 19-July 14, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., (grades 6-8); cost \$1,040. Session 2: July 17-Aug. 11, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., (grades 9-12); \$1,100. Scholarships available. Details: 510-647-2978, berkeleyrep.org, school@berkeleyrep.org.

■ **Summer Drama Camps** — Contra Costa Civic Theatre. Regular Drama Camp sessions for ages 7-12, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. weekdays: June 19-30, July 3-14, July 31-Aug. 5, Aug. 14-25. Learn theatre basics, help produce a video, participate in theatre production. Cost: \$575. — Advanced Camp for ages 12-16, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. weekdays: July 3-14, July 17-28. Build skills for high school theatre & beyond. — Pre-Camp for ages 5-7, 9 a.m.-12 p.m., June 12-16. Intro to camp; kids perform in costume on final day. Cost: \$220, childcare until 1 p.m. \$45. Drama Camp & Precamp at 951 Pomona Ave., El Cerrito. Advanced Camp at Prospect Sierra High School, 2060 Tapscott Ave., El Cerrito. Details: 510-524-9132, ccct.org.

■ **Kurukula** — Self-Defense, Empowerment, & Life Skills for Young Women, now enrolling for summer camp at Albany Community Center, 1249 Marin Ave., Albany. Ages 9-12: June 26-29, July 17-20, Aug. 21-24; classes are 1-3 p.m., \$89. — Ages 13-teens: July 9, 16, 23, 30; 10 a.m.-12 p.m., \$89. Details: kurukula.com, 510-524-9283.

■ **Berkeley Rep School of Theatre** — Summer classes, 2071 Addison St., Berkeley. July 8-Aug. 5, Saturdays 9-11 a.m., Acting Adventures (Grades 3-5), \$130. — July 8-Aug. 12, Saturdays, 9:30-11 a.m., Paper Caper Circus (Grades K-2), \$140. — By appointment: Dueling Duos — Private Stage Combat for Two (Grades 5+), \$80/hour. Scholarships available for youth. Details: 510-647-2972, berkeleyrep.org/school.

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For study information please call Bay Area Research Institute at (925)283-9006 or e-mail info@BayAreaResearch.com

Mike Ayers' impact on the community drew hundreds to his funeral May 24. The flag flown at half-mast at the Albany Police Department after Ayers died May 16 was folded and given to his family.

"It all fell into place that he should raise a family here and work here," wife Charlotte Ayers said. "He was pretty devoted to Albany."

Reach Alan Lopez at 510-243-3578 or e-mail alopez1@cctimes.com.

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ACCESSIBILITY OPPORTUNITY

Upgrades

FROM PAGE A1

Among other things, Chabin recommended that El Cerrito develop a streetscape plan for San Pablo Avenue to develop a stronger "sense of place" that supports the high-quality retail and housing developments people want.

Chabin also recommends that El Cerrito form a legal partnership — also known as a joint powers authority — with Richmond to improve San Pablo Avenue.

El Cerrito Redevelopment Manager Lori Trevino said that would likely be too costly and complicated to set up.

However, the two cities are planning to cooperate on creat-

ing a vision for San Pablo Avenue, said Richard Mitchell, the director of planning and building for Richmond. That vision will likely be integrated into Richmond's general plan, which the city is now updating.

"El Cerrito has developed a prototype, and that's what we want to look at," Mitchell said.

Along a mile stretch of San Pablo Avenue between El Dorado Street and Bayview Avenue, business owners such as Contaxis are technically located in the Richmond Annex while their addresses and the sidewalk in front

of their buildings are in El Cerrito.

That's created some confusion for Contaxis, such as which police department to call.

However, it's El Cerrito that has told her to keep her furniture, some of which is located on the sidewalk, up against the store to avoid tripping pedestrians.

While she is complying, she said she wants to keep some of her furniture on the sidewalk and pointed to Tradeway Stores near Manila Avenue, which does the same thing.

In a photo, the Chabin report

implies that the furniture in front of Tradeway needed to be removed.

Joe Conwell, the owner of the furniture store, said he purchased the land from Caltrans, and that it has a right to be there.

However, as San Pablo Avenue changes, he may be pressured to change, too. The Town Center apartments are just to his south, and when it's built, the new City Hall will be to his north.

"We'll work with the city," Conwell said. "That's the idea."

Reach Alan Lopez at 510-243-3576 or alopez1@comcast.net

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Growing up in San Bernardino, Carlock said her main outlet in high school was reading and participating in science competitions.

"I just feel like I want to give that experience to someone else," she said. "Carry on that tradition of what teachers did for me."

As for the students, they're simply using their curiosity and

the knowledge they've accumulated over years of study.

"I think it's fascinating how life works," Jackie said. "It's always changing; there's always something new."

Reach Alan Lopez
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Obituaries and In Memoriam



John Joseph Ferrari
Resident of Oakland

John Joseph Ferrari passed away peacefully May 26, 2006.

He was born on October 26, 1918, graduated from Saint Mary's High School in Stockton in 1937, earned an Associates Business degree from Humphrey's School of Business in Stockton and lived a happy fulfilled life.

John was a loving and dedicated husband to Betty Azzarelli-Ferrari until her passing September 15, 1996. They raised four wonderful children.

John was then blessed by a second marriage to his childhood sweetheart, Delpha Manning-Ferrari until her passing January 10, 2006.

For John, his family and Catholic faith was number one, followed by his Italian heritage, friendships and enjoyment of Raiders football. He was a long time member of the Oakland Colombo Club, and St. Theresa's Catholic Church in Montclair.

Until his Retirement, John was a heavy duty parts truck manager for various General Motors dealerships, who supported World War II by supplying landing barges and other large equipment with parts.

John is survived by his son Albert J. Ferrari of Oakland, daughters Virginia Ferrari-Oliver of Rio Vista, Yolanda Ferrari-Harui of San Jose and Valerie Ferrari-Haag of Moraga, six grandchildren and one great-grandson, and several cousins including Tom Ferrari of Stockton.

Services for John Joseph Ferrari are as follows:

Viewing - 6-7 p.m., May 30, 2006 @ Albert Brown Mortuary 3476 Piedmont Ave. Oakland, CA, 94611; Rosary - 7 p.m., May 30, 2006 @ Albert Brown Mortuary 3476 Piedmont Ave. Oakland, CA, 94611; Funeral Mass - May 31, 2006 at 10 a.m., St. Theresa's Church 4850 Clarewood Dr. Oakland, CA, 94618. Please see the Albert Brown Mortuary at (510) 652-1873 with any questions.

He is truly loved and will be missed.

Ethel Sophia Schenk

Jan. 12, 1938 - May 27, 2006

Born Ethel Sophia Benson in Oakland to proud parents Holgar Olaf Benson and Bada Peterson Benson. She was the loving wife of W. Max Schenk for 41 years and is survived by daughter, Julie Ouellette and her children, Hannah and Harlan; son, Max O. and his wife, Marti and their children, Max and Megan; and son, Barry and his children, Amanda and Emily.

A resident of Oakland all of her life, Ethel attended Redwood Heights Elementary, Bret Harte Junior High and graduated from Oakland High School in 1955. Ethel received a BA English from the University of California, Berkeley, as well as two certificates from Merritt College. She was awarded many academics honors throughout her education, including Magna Cum Laude from the Phi Beta Kappa Society. She shared her love of learning through volunteer work at Redwood Heights Elementary and Bret Harte Junior High, and was a PTA president at both. Ethel also worked for 32 years as an instructional assistant first at Redwood Heights and most recently at Montclair Elementary, where she especially enjoyed working with children who had learning challenges. One of her greatest joys was teaching children to read.

Ethel enjoyed painting with oils on canvas, chalk pastels, needle point and embroidery. She performed with the Mother Singers choral group, and with the St. Lawrence O'Toole choir. By far, her favorite pastime was reading and collecting books. She was a 25-year member of a local reading group, which she attended monthly. In addition, she loved animals and cared for a vast array of creatures (wild and tame) that found their way to her home.

Ethel was an optimistic person with a delightful sense of humor throughout the many health challenges she faced. Her courage and strength have been, and continue to be, an inspiration to many. She will be greatly missed by her family, many friends, and students whose lives she touched. A memorial gathering celebrating her life will be held on Saturday, June 10, 2006 at 2 p.m. at Redwood Heights Elementary School, located at 4401 39th Avenue, Oakland, CA. Memorial donations may be made to the Redwood Heights PTA/Library, 4401 39th Ave., Oakland, CA 94619.

Mildred Oppenheim

Resident of Piedmont

Passed away May 23, 2006 at the age of 83. Widow of Louis H. Oppenheim, loving mother and grandmother. She is survived and loved dearly by daughter, Susan Stravinsky; sons, David, Stephen, and John; grandchildren, Ian, Jay, and Gina Stravinsky; and Kimberly and Phillip Oppenheim. She will be greatly missed by family and friends.

Jeffrey Karl Ranstrom

1960 - 2006

Jeff was born August 20, 1960 in Ogden, Utah, the third son of Don and Roberta Ranstrom. He attended Davis Senior High School and graduated from the University of California, Berkeley, with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Computer Science, his special interest being Artificial Intelligence. In his junior and senior years at Cal, Jeff worked on the INGRES project that revolutionized relational databases. He continued that work after graduation at Altos Computer Systems, and then was an early, key employee at Sybase. There he helped architect Sybase's first highly successful product, SQL Server. SQL Server was a groundbreaking database management system that was later sold to Microsoft. It is still a very popular offering of both companies. In recent years, Jeff worked as a consultant for several small software companies.

In 1983 he married Julie Chen; they had one child, Eleanor, born in 1985. After an amicable divorce, Jeff and Julie maintained joint custody of Eleanor, who is now a Mills College student on extended study in New Zealand.

Jeff was an avid cyclist and windsurfer, a supporter of the San Francisco Symphony and The San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, and an informed and articulate champion of progressive political causes and candidates.

In November, 2003 Jeff was diagnosed with a malignant and very aggressive brain tumor. He carefully researched the available treatment protocols and clinical trials, and entered a dendritic cell vaccine clinical trial at the Cedars-Sinai Maxine Dunitz Cancer Center in Los Angeles. Jeff's heroic struggle with brain cancer — including five craniotomies and three courses of radiation — was marked by several astounding rallies that offered hope for full recovery, only to be met by new setbacks. Through it all, Jeff maintained his warmth and humor, his positive outlook, and his delight in good friends, good music, good art and good organic food. Jeff's refusal to give up hope is an enduring inspiration to all who knew him.

Two years after his diagnosis, Jeff moved from his hilltop home in Berkeley to his parents' residence in Davis. There he was surrounded by family and friends until hospitalization at the UC Davis Medical Center, Sacramento, where he died Tuesday evening, May 16, 2006.

In addition to his daughter Eleanor, Jeff is survived by his parents, Don and Roberta Ranstrom of Davis, three brothers — Jon of Moraga, Tim of Davis, and Greg of Bend, Oregon — and two sisters, Julie of Citrus Heights, and Laurie of Davis. Jeff had seven nieces and nephews.

The family is grateful for many expressions of support and sympathy as well as the skillful and loving care that Jeff received at Cedars-Sinai and at UCDMC. They urge that Jeff's commitment to progressive causes and to finding a cure for brain cancer be carried forward by all those who remember him.

A celebration of Jeff's life will be held the afternoon of August 20th at Lutheran Church of the Incarnation, Davis.

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Gregory Alan Shoemaker
Resident of Moraga

Gregory Alan Shoemaker, 48, died at his home in Moraga on Tuesday, May 30. He had suffered from ALS (Lou Gehrig's disease) for the past two years. Greg was an Account Executive for Old Republic Title Company in Montclair, where he had worked for the past four and a half years. Greg attended Berkeley High School and Diablo Valley College and graduated from San Francisco State University with a degree in Industrial Design. After his studies, he joined the Clement Mok design firm (later Studio Archetype), where he met Stephanie, his beloved wife-to-be. He later worked for Salesforce.com as a project manager until he became one of the victims of the widespread downsizing in the dot.com industry in the Bay Area.

Greg enjoyed fishing, snow camping, tennis, sailing, cooking, and working around his home with Stephanie and their two lovely and lively nine-year-old twins, Fiona and Ian.

Noted for his sense of humor and engaging personality, Greg counted among his many friends those he met in high school and college, at his former workplaces and his neighbors. Many in the Montclair real estate community and several neighbors provided extraordinary support to Greg and his family after his illness was diagnosed. The family is very grateful.

Greg met his illness head-on, fully determined to live as well as possible for as long as he could. His resolve was inspiring to all who knew him.

In addition to Stephanie and Fiona and Ian, Greg is survived by his mother, Peggy Falknor, of Oakland; his father, Richard Shoemaker, of Berkeley; his sister, Carin, of Hayward; and his brother, David, and nephews, Christopher and Scott, of Rancho Palos Verdes.

The family will conduct a private service for Greg, but intends to hold a memorial celebration of his life at a later date to be announced.

Contributions in Greg's name can be made to either Sutter VNA and Hospice, 1900 Bates Ave., Suite A, Concord, CA 94520, or ALS Clinic at UCSF for Research, 350 Parnassus Ave., Suite 500, San Francisco, CA 94117.

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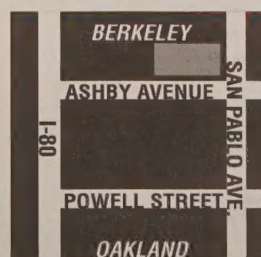
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Real Estate

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WEEKLY SALES CAN BE FOUND IN THE AUTO SECTION ON PAGE D8.

Advertising supplement to The Berkeley Voice, The Journal, The Independent, The San Francisco Chronicle



PHOTOS COURTESY PACIFIC UNION REAL ESTATE

GREAT ROOM: Designer Phil Perkins designed the "great room" at 4615 Rockingham to allow plenty of space for enjoying time with family and entertaining friends.

Commanding views from hilltop estate

DONNA EVANOSKY
SECTION EDITOR

Home at 4615 Rockingham Oakland showcases modern craftsmanship — the culmination of a rare collaboration of talent. Designer Phil Perkins and designer-decorator Donna Evansky.

Perkins sculpted the entire home to lead to a secluded garden embraced by a hilltop estate.

Perkins and meticulous design of this six-bedroom, five-bath home convey the sense of walking

through a refined sculpture. This hilltop estate on a quiet cul-de-sac off Campus Drive in the Oakland hills offers spectacular four-bridge views of the San Francisco Bay.

Main level: Eighteen symmetric clerestory windows gently light the home's elegant entry tower and welcome you in grand style. An office with its own private bathroom and plenty of storage is just off the entry tower.

A spacious gallery, which Perkins designed to display an art collection, opens onto the courtyard gardens. A private courtyard one one side and San Francisco

Bay views on the other frame the home's living room and dining rooms. The living room features a chic, sculpted fireplace.

The kitchen, breakfast nook and family room combine to form the home's great room with its high cathedral ceilings.

The great room, which also opens to the courtyard garden with its views of San Francisco Bay, is the heart of daily living. Perkins generously sized this space to make it large enough to entertain a gathering of family and friends.

See HOME, Page B2

Real Estate Spotlight

Scenic, up-scale Claremont Pines



OAKLAND'S CLAREMONT PINES NEIGHBORHOOD is the setting for the elegant, custom-crafted traditional-style home at 73 Beechwood Drive with New England charm. A welcoming, beautifully manicured, front garden filled with jasmine, birch and dogwood trees, Japanese maples and camellias graces the grand exterior. The two-story foyer with hand-forged wrought iron banister staircase provides a magnificent entrance. The home has 5,600 square feet with a custom-designed interior including five full bedrooms, five full and two half baths, elegant master suite, family great room, second family/bonus room with separate entrance, au-pair set-up, exercise room, three-car garage, loads of storage space and peaceful backyard with play structure. Close to shops and convenient commute location.

Price: \$2,750,000.

Listing agents: Susan Peterson 925-253-6223 or Gianna Mayo 925-253-6270, of Pacific Union. See photos at www.Beechwooddrive.com.

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OAKMORE (LOWER) \$649,000
3973 HANLY RD
Charming 2bd plus office in Lower Oakmore. Living room with fireplace, formal dining room, h/w's. OPEN SUN 2-4:30
Nader Davari 339.8400~339.4566

LOWER LAUREL \$459,000
2872 DELAWARE STREET
New look & New price! Cute, cozy & bright, 2/1, gleaming H/W's, freshly painted, FP, kitchen overlooks grassy fenced yard. OPEN SUN 2-4
Beatriz Kasten 339.8400~899.6366

OAKLAND \$749,000
4409 ARCADIA AVENUE
Just listed! Bay view! Spectacular grounds for this charming cottage on nearly a quarter acre! Updated country kitchen, new bath and separate 1bd cottage included. OPEN SUN 2-4:30
See tour and photos at:
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CENTRAL BERKELEY \$635,000
2238 CALIFORNIA STREET
Sparkling 2bd/1ba c1910 bungalow w/ detached studio. Kitchen & bath upgrades, newer roof, H/W's, FP, Wedgewood stove, charm galore! Sunny front porch and lovely garden. Walk to BART! OPEN SUN 2-4:30
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EASTMONT \$425,000
2630 76TH AVENUE
1920's 2bd/1ba home w/original details. Includes formal dining room, H/W's, eat-in kitchen, fireplace & sunny backyard. OPEN SUN 2-4:30
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OAKLAND \$754,999
3658 VIRDEN AVE
Wonderful 4/2, h/w's, newer appliances, fireplace, pano views, 2 car gar, awesome neighborhood, great fireplace, new windows, + room w/ sep. entrance, lots of storage. OPEN SUN 2-4
Robert M. Scott 339.4000~485.5118

PARKWOODS \$519,000
320 CALDECOTT LANE #118
Spectacular! New hardwood floors. OPEN SUN 2-4:30
Michael Harding 339.4000~899.6307

KING ESTATES \$490,000
7741 STERLING DRIVE
Price Reduced! 2bd/1ba + gr room w/ beam ceiling, fireplace, great for entertaining, romantic patio, FDR, h/w's, fresh kitchen, w/skylight. OPEN SUN 2-4:30
Joe Ashton 339.4000~899.6323

OAKLAND \$399,000
1209 90TH
Charming updated 2bd/1ba on large lot. New kitchen, floors, carpet, paint in & out, updated bath, lots of closet space. Come see. OPEN SUN 2-4
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DIMOND HEIGHTS \$389,000
2876 CARMEL #4
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GRAND LAKE \$369,000
3648 GRAND #7
Sophisticated Grand Lake Condo. 2bd/2ba, easy walking to Piedmont Ave. OPEN SUN 2-4:30
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LAUREL (UPPER) \$619,000
4526 PAMPAS AVE
Lovely 3bd/1ba Tudor w/ fab yard in desirable Upper Laurel neighborhood. OPEN SUN 2-5
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BERKELEY \$599,000
2530 SACRAMENTO STREET
Adorable 3bd/1ba Tudor w/all charming details! H/W's, arches, moldings & multi-paned windows for tons of light! Huge enclosed backyard. OPEN SUN 2-4:30
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WEST OAKLAND \$499,000
926 CHESTER #14
Lrg open split level loft. Mezzanine bedroom. Tile and H/W's. 2.5 blocks from BART & secure parking. Very spacious, only 8 units in building, low HOA. OPEN SAT & SUN 2-4:30
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REDWOOD HEIGHTS \$719,000
4237 DETROIT AVENUE
Walk to school, shopping and park! OPEN SUN 2-4:30 See tour and photos at:
PatriciaBennett.com 339-8400~482.9000

LINCOLN HEIGHTS \$699,000
4048 COOLIDGE
Price Reduced! 3bd/2ba Trad'l w/ Mediterranean touches in serene garden setting, vaulted beam ceiling in LR, formal DR, Random Plank Flrs, rum-pus room, interior access to garage. OPEN SUN 2-4:30 Photos at:
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APPOINTMENT

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Romantic 4bd/2ba trad'l w/English garden, deck, hot tub & mature landscaping. Formal LR, DR, fam. room, master bedroom, office & rec room.
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4224 REINHARDT DR
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PIEDMONT AVENUE \$679,000
4521 MONTGOMERY ST #10
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OAKLAND \$689,000
3866 MAYBELLE AVENUE
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Robert M. Scott 339.4000~485.5118

OAKLAND \$399,950
2509 66TH AVENUE
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WALNUT CREEK \$355,000
1721 SOUTH VILLA WAY
1bd/1ba condo. Nice end unit, living room w/ sun room/ bonus room. New int. paint, laundry room, swimming pool & hot tub, parking.
Ken Nwokedi 339.4000~485.5110



FOR THE GOURMET: The home's kitchen showcases a sculpted island and custom cabinets of exotic Sapele wood offers with every modern convenience

Home

FROM PAGE B1

The showcase kitchen with a sculpted island and custom cabinets of exotic Sapele wood offers every modern convenience.

A gas fireplace and 10-foot-high built-ins that accommodate a super-large-screen television along with a library of books and objets d'art complement the home's family room.

The breakfast nook offers a breathtaking view that includes the Bay Bridge, the Golden Gate Bridge, the San Rafael Bridge and the San Mateo Bridge.

A large, walk-through, fully-appointed butler's pantry provides a beautiful staging area between the

A gas fireplace and 10-foot-high built-ins that accommodate a super-large-screen television along with a library of books and objets d'art complement the home's family room.

kitchen and the dining room. Adjacent to the great room, near the powder room and walk-in storage closet, is access to the three-car garage, which is conveniently level-in to the home.

Perkins designed the central courtyard garden for daily use. He added four sets of doors that offer easy access to the outdoors. Here you can dine alfresco or indoors around the Owen Gabbert-designed sculpted fireplace tower.

Split up a half-flight is a bedroom

with two bedrooms — each with its own attached bathroom. Nearby is a laundry room with a sink and plenty of counters and storage.

Master suite and club room level: Split down a half-flight from the main level is a luxurious master suite with a sitting area complete with gas fireplace, entertainment center niche, and private patio. A deep, jetted bathtub integrated with a stylized walk-in shower complement the home's master bathroom. A club room level offers a game



PHOTOS COURTESY PACIFIC UNION REAL ESTATE

ENTERTAIN IN STYLE: A 120-inch screen makes the theater ideal for private screenings of 20 to 30 friends.

VITAL STATISTICS

What: A contemporary hilltop home at 4615 Rockingham Court in Oakland

Size: Approximately 6,645 square feet set on a .55-acre lot.

Bedrooms: Six

Bathrooms: Six full and two partial baths

Features: This Phil Perkins-designed home in the Oakland hills offers a central great room for activities, a gourmet kitchen with a sculpted isle for the gourmet chef, a master bath with walk-in closet and a theater with a 120-inch screen for the movie buff. The breakfast nook offers a breathtaking view of San Francisco Bay.

Price: \$4,325,000

Listing agent: David Ichikawa, Pacific Union Real Estate, 510-339-6460

room large enough for a pool table and much more. A fully outfitted built-in wet bar serves both the game room and the adjoining theater. The 120-inch screen makes the home theater ideal for private screenings or parties for 20 to 30

friends. Along the hallway are two more bedrooms, each with its own attached bathroom.

An exercise area with an adjacent powder room is at the end of the hall.

Just outside, with the San Fran-

cisco Bay as backdrop, a large, level backyard

A temperature-controlled cellar complete with wine racks is your private collection. An ideal place to store your collection.

Making sense of stock options

Health insurance, paid vacation and company-sponsored retirement plans are all common elements of a typical employee benefits package. In addition to these traditional elements, many employers also offer stock options as an extra incentive for select employees. While options can be one of the most valuable perks a company can give you, they can also be difficult to understand. So if you find yourself on the receiving end of this generous benefit, it is important to know how stock options work and what they could mean to you.

In basic terms, stock options give you the right to purchase company stock at a certain price some time in the future. Companies typically use options as a long-term incentive for valued employees because

the benefit of the option is tied to the success of the company. Giving employees an ownership stake in the company further encourages them to be personally committed to the success of the organization.

As you can probably see already, a stock option gains value as the stock price appreciates. By exercising your option, you purchase stock directly from the company at the option price, which is set when the option is granted to you. One thing to keep in mind — you must exercise your options within a certain period, or they will expire.

There are two more common types of options companies grant: incentive stock options (ISOs) or nonqualified stock options (NSOs). The main difference between the two is in the tax consequences to you.

When you receive an ISO, there is no actual transfer of property on the grant date, so you do not incur any tax consequences. With an ISO, because the option must be granted at a price that is at least equal to the stock's market price on the grant date, the stock must increase in price for you to actually benefit from the option.

The option price you pay when you exercise incentive options becomes your cost basis for the stock. This will come into play when you decide to sell the stock — whether that is right away or at a later date. The difference between the sale price you get for your stock and your cost basis (option price) is the income you will need to consider when you figure your taxes.

If you exercise and hold ISO



LEILA GOUGH
Money Matters

shares, you may be increasing your chance of being subject to the alternative minimum tax. There are certain holding periods that apply to ISOs; as long as you have held your stock long enough — at least one year and in some cases two years — the difference between your sale price and your cost basis

will be considered a long-term capital gain, which can receive favorable tax treatment. At the time of a nonqualified stock option grant, once again there is no taxable event because no transfer of property has taken place. Unlike incentive options, the difference between the grant price and the stock price on the day of exercise is taxed as ordinary income.

If you are looking to diversify or generate cash, focus on exercising at a favorable stock price. Consider setting price targets and gradually selling as the stock appreciates. If your goal is to exercise and hold the stock in your portfolio, consider the risk of a concentrated position

in one stock and focusing on selling during stock price peaks in order to lower your tax burden. Differentiating between types of options and understanding the sequences is an important part of making the most of your grants requires careful planning and you should include a advisor in the process.

But if you receive options from your company as part of a benefits package, you will want to be prepared to take full advantage. Leila Gough is a Vice President with AIA in Oakland. She can be reached at 510-452-8060.

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MINDY SCOTT
Office: 510.339.0400/215
scott@grubbco.com

A sampling of our current listings:

	<p>San Pablo</p> <p>Cute 3bd/1ba home -- hardwood floors, new double pane windows, tiled kitchen and bath. Roof is 5 years old. White picket fence front yard and many fruit trees in backyard \$425,000</p>
	<p>San Francisco -- Mission</p> <p>Beautiful 3-unit Edwardian. 2 2bd units, wonderfully updated 3rd top floor unit with views to Twin Peaks. Ideal investment or as TICs (two units vacant at COE). \$1,795,000</p>
	<p>Mill Valley</p> <p>Charming 4 bd, 1 ba home in popular Sycamore Park close to schools, rec center, downtown & more. Refinished floors and new paint inside and outside facade. Use as is or bring your imagination. There's lots of potential. \$950,000</p>

Prudential
California Real Estate
Jim H...
415-762-...

2241 Market St
San Francisco

and our newest listing

311 Calabazas
Sausalito

Estate Focus: Top-notch Tudor in Oakland



THE MOMENT you rest your eyes on the stately magnolia and redwood trees in the front yard, Chabot Road Tudor at 6501 Chabot Road, in Oakland's Rockridge district, will delight and charm. Perched up from the street and with a detached garage, light flows in from all directions. The living room with built-ins and fireplace flows into a gloriously huge family room with floor to ceiling windows — making indoor/outdoor living an easy fit. Across the entry foyer from the living room, the dining room has lovely tree-filled outlooks. The cook's kitchen boasts a restaurant Wolf range and island. Upstairs you'll find three large bedrooms with a sun porch behind the master. The sprawling terrace makes the perfect picnic, eating or lounging area. Let your eyes and your imagination feast on the landscaped garden leading up to another inspiring sitting area. All this within a few blocks of the city. \$1,075,000. Open home Sunday, June 4 and Sunday, June 11, 2 - 4:30 p.m. Agents: Heidi and Jerry Long, Red Oak Realty, 510-835-6218.

Bestowing tender, loving car on a home, a little bit at a time

Number 513 in a series of true experiences in real estate

The best money I think I ever spent on my house was to move the laundry from the basement to the main living level. When my kids were little and insisted on wearing the same favorite clothes every day, I could throw in a load of wash at night, and while doing other things, could easily return to pull things out of the dryer.

Having new wood floors laid where there had been carpet over plywood was expensive so I wasn't able to do it all at once. In fact, the bedrooms and hall in my house are still vinyl and carpet covered. But the kitchen and adjoining dining room have now golden-colored fir floors that a friend milled from old planks and laid (excellent choice) on the diagonal.

I don't remember what we had to pay for these floors but I think they look stupendous. I still am consciously enjoying them everyday. The living room came later, a year when I had a tax refund and saw my chance. This floor is rose formal, narrower beech wood strips, but the baseboards are high and cut from new vertical grain fir. Worth every cent.

When my husband and I bought my house in the early 1990s, we tore a lot of it apart. We ran out of money (and marriage)

before the rebuilding was done but with only a few exceptions, I think the things we did do, we did well and beautifully.

For instance, when we needed to replace our wide front porch, we chose concrete for durability and relative low cost. But rather than one solid expanse of concrete, half a dozen divisions were made by inserting flush with the surface quarter-inch-wide brass strips. Big, beautiful, distinctive difference.

My house was built in the late 1940s, in sort of a ranch style, although not even so distinctive. We could see from the start that any architectural interest was going to have to be added. Our architect suggested that tearing out ceilings to the roof line would get us the most bang for the buck. We were game; we tore back to aged fir roof sheathing and loved the rough, unfinished look.

It wasn't all that inexpensive though. Engineered cross beams were added, electricity had to be rerouted, walls opened up.

And, that first summer we found, it gets hot in the house. There is no insulation, nothing between the ceilings and the roof surface with the sun beating down.

A few weeks ago our trusty contractor friend Shaun suggested that he install twirling turbines in the roof. You know the kind — round metal turban-like things that revolve on



TARPOFF AND TALBOT
True Experiences

My house was built in the late 1940s, in sort of a ranch style, although not even so distinctive. We could see from the start that any architectural interest was going to have to be added.

their own (no electricity necessary). They let hot air out.

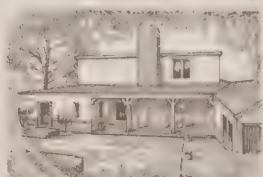
We haven't had hot weather yet this year so aren't sure how much difference these will make. We only put in two, one each in the living room and kitchen where there were already openings cut for vents.

But last week we decided to go

See TARPOFF, Page B4

Open Sunday

Spectacular Views!
SUNDAY 2-4:30. Lovely landscaped gardens and this elegant home in beautiful condition! Four bedrooms, three baths, formal dining room, kitchen, eat-in kitchen, office and a two-car garage. Close to Madera School.
Offered at \$1,150,000



1335 Contra Costa Drive
El Cerrito

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Open Sunday

SUNDAY 2-4:30. This bright and open home has been beautifully updated and offers exceptionally large gardens and lawns. There are four bedrooms, four full baths, den, large family room, formal dining room, and two-car garage with interior access.
New Price! \$2,350,000



79 Sandringham Road
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Open Appointment

Set in the desirable Montclair Hills this contemporary has an open flowing floor plan. Every room is spacious and inviting. Enjoy the sun in an expansive eat-in kitchen with large sun filled family room with views of the hills. All four bedrooms including the master suite on one level. Other features include a home theater on main level and exercise room.
Offered at \$1,195,000



6195 Swainland Road
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STEVE MICHAELIDES
Office: 510.339.0400/242
smichaelides@grubbco.com



ROCKRIDGE HILLS, ALVARADO ROAD, THE CLAREMONT, ELMWOOD, ROCKRIDGE, BERKELEY, OAKLAND/MONTECLAIR

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open sunday

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. Stylish and elegant award winning design contemporary with panoramic views of the bridges and more! Four bedrooms, including a fabulous master suite with fireplace and three and a half bathrooms. Great outdoor living with deck and sunny level lawn.
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6201 Virgo Road, Montclair

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open sunday

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. A little bit of Cape Cod located just above College Avenue and BART! Three bedrooms, one and one half baths, formal dining room, updated kitchen opening to lovely, sunny garden! Move-in condition!
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6762 Manor Crest
Rockridge

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open sunday

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. Fabulous bungalow in the heart of Berkeley featuring two bedrooms, one bath. Gourmet kitchen, spacious garden & studio. Vintage gumwood detailing. Hardwood floors. Close to BART, Chez Panisse, shopping & coffee.
Offered at \$695,000



1511 Virginia Street, Berkeley

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ANNE FESTE
Office: 510.339.0400/371
afeste@grubbco.com



Just Listed

519-521 Valle Vista, Grand Lake



OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30 PM. Pride of Ownership is evident throughout this beautifully maintained three unit property built in 1922 with lovely period architectural details. Pretty vistas from the arched wood windows, hardwood floors and an artfully designed south garden with decking, roses, fruit trees and fragrant plantings. Two-car garage, plus two additional off-street parking. Delivered vacant at close of escrow.
Offered at \$1,249,000



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A man on the 'Leading Edge'

REALTOR MING ZHOU from Prudential California Realty's Grand Lake office in Oakland recently received the coveted Prudential top production Leading Edge award. "Ming just completed his second full year in real estate and attributes his success to always doing what is best for his clients, having great market knowledge, and being available," said broker-manager Amberson "Mac" MacCulloch. Ming is a Shanghai native who speaks English, Mandarin and Cantonese. He can be reached at 510-318-2336 or at ming.zhou@purerealty.com.

Taking a look around the East Bay real estate community

News and information for and about the area real estate community and affiliated industries

FOR THE PUBLIC

Books By

Realtors and Affiliates of the real estate industry are often multi-talented. Some write books too. Realtor **Oral Lee Brown** tells the story of how she made good on her pact to send a classroom of inner-city first-graders to college. The Promise promises an intriguing story of Brown's life and the determination it took to fulfill a dream. Check local bookstores or Amazon.com for your copy.

Our Houses

Attend "Our Houses" in Alameda. From stained glass to Victorian classics, the Alameda Museum provides lectures for everyone who loves homes. Prominent Bay area authors and historians narrate the slide lectures. The next lecture in the series is "Glass Act Redux", by Glassmaker **Ken Matthias**. Join the artist-historian 7 p.m., Thursday, June 29. The presentation shows new images of historical glass on the island. For ticket information call 510-748-0796.

Free Classes

Investors. Bay Area Investors Educational Services of Oakland offers a monthly program on the benefits of and strategies for investing in real estate. The two-part program "Design and Profit in Remodeling" and "Equity Sharing for Investors and Home Buyers" is 6:30 to 9:30 p.m., Tuesday, June 6. Call for ticket and location information at 510-339-9014.

How To. "How To Buy Your First Home" is held at CitiBank in Alameda. Come find out about the First Time Home Buyer Assistance Program. Join Presenters Alice Tsai of RE/Max Accord and Joe Bohannon of CitiMortgage for the next session, 6 to 8 p.m., Wednesday, June 14. Contact Tsai at Alice@EastBayHouseHunters.com or call 866-407-0684.

Senior Moves. Attend a two-part series on senior housing options. Part One of the series presents a panel of specialists discussing living and care options for seniors. Questions will follow the discussion, along with an opportunity to make a tour reservation for several facilities. Part One is 1 p.m., Tuesday, June 6. At Part Two you

will hear **Donna Robbins**, author of "Moving Mom and Dad: The Stress Free Guide to Helping Seniors Move" and a presentation titled "The Needle in the Haystack". Part Two is 7 p.m., Thursday, June 22. The series is held at the North Berkeley Senior Center, on Hearst

See REID, Page B5

shown by appointment

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Fire safety: Top 10 smoke alarm tips that can save your life

■ AHA is giving away \$5 million of Kidde Smoke Alarms to remember AHA Employee Ramona Holliday

AMERICAN HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION

According to the American Homeowners Association, "4,000 individuals needlessly die each year in home fires — deaths that might be prevented with increased awareness of basic, yet critical, smoke alarm facts," said Richard Roll, AHA founder/president.

For Roll, the latest fire fatality in Bridgeport, Conn., Ramona Holliday and her family, is much more than a statistic. It is family. The lack of working smoke alarms was blamed in connection with their deaths.

AHA is giving away \$5 million of Kidde Smoke Alarms to remember AHA Employee Ramona Holliday. "We designed this initiative to prevent needless tragedies by spreading vital smoke alarm-related information and reaching everyone who thinks 'It can't happen to me.'"

In addition to the smoke alarm, participants will receive a trial membership in the AHA to use without obligation for 60 days.

A small \$1.95 processing fee applies to help defray the cost of shipping and handling. Renters and landlords are invited to participate in this program.

"Our goal is to make people aware that a working smoke alarm is a matter of life or death and provide them with tools that can help them avert such tragedies," Roll said.

Top 10 smoke alarm tips

The U.S. Fire Administration says having a working smoke alarm reduces one's chance of dying in a fire by nearly 50 percent because it provides an early warning and gives people additional time to escape.

1. To adequately protect your family, install at least one fire alarm on every level of your home, including the basement and outside each sleeping area.

2. If you or family members sleep with the bedroom door closed, install smoke alarms inside the bedroom.

3. Some individuals, particularly children, older people and those with special needs, may not wake up to the sound of a smoke alarm. You should be aware of this when developing a home fire escape plan.

4. Follow the manufacturer's instructions for installing smoke alarms.

5. Install smoke alarms far enough away from ordinary cooking smoke to avoid false alarms, a common and dangerous reason for disarming smoke alarms.

6. Don't disconnect a smoke alarm or "borrow" the batteries.

7. Test smoke alarms at least once a month.

8. Replace batteries in all smoke alarms twice a year.

9. Replace the smoke alarm every 10 years, or as the manufacturer recommends.

10. When you purchase a smoke alarm, look for the UL Mark. The symbol indicates representative samples of the alarm have met UL's stringent safety standards.

Tarpoiff

FROM PAGE B3

one step further. My ex-husband (and former collaborator in house projects) told me about a whole-house fan, electric with self-closing doors, to be installed in a ceiling, cost around \$500 - \$700.

I did some research; was told that I could have the fan installed in the hallway ceiling simply by cutting a hole to the attic space and plugging it in. The motor is very quiet on low speed, the manufac-

turer said. The fan will suck hot air out of the house and circulate cooler air from open windows and doors.

I ordered a two-speed fan immediately and will have it installed this week. This seems so very much better to me as a cooling aid than air conditioning or other, portable electric fans.

I'll let you know.

Pat Talbert and Anet Tarpoiff are local residential real estate agents who can be reached at 653-2050 and at www.tarpoiffandtalbert.com.

CONTACT THE REAL ESTATE EDITOR AT
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Grand Winner
 Oakland Association of Realtors supports the Oral Lee Brown Foundation. **Lola Har-**

Appointment
 Planning seven-year old home by Trends just beyond Hiller Highlands. High private front courtyard, south Bay view, access to freeways. Five bedrooms, three and a half baths, family room off kitchen plus huge

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Lovely 3 bedroom/ 1 bath Tudor with fabulous yard in desirable Upper Laurel neighborhood

Open Sunday June 4th,
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Open Saturday & Sunday June 3rd & 4th, 2-5 PM
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ETHICS DEADLINE

Don't wait to meet the National Association of Realtors ethics class requirement. By the end of the year all members of NAR must complete a two-and-a-half hour course. The course stresses familiarity with the Code of Ethics and also an understanding of how the code applies to your business. Contact your local association for class information. Additionally, Realtor.org offers a free, online course.

BUSINESS TIPS

Realtor Online Magazine is available to help with your real estate business. Each month there is new content at the website www.realtor.org/realformag. You'll find tips on FSBOs, broker opens, proving your worth and much more. You can also request a business tips newsletter sent directly to your e-mail box.

BOBBIE HEARS

■ Happy 10th Anniversary of Georgia Richardson of Richardson Real Estate Services. She is the Broker/Owner and founder of RRES. An Open House was held at her office on Keller Avenue in Oakland to celebrate the milestone. One lucky attendee won a \$500 gift

certificate to Expo Design. Richardson is a past president of the Oakland Association of Realtors. Tell her Happy-Happy by calling 510-569-3499.

■ I was pleasantly surprised to hear the voice of a local Realtor on a radio spot for the National Association of Realtors Public Awareness Campaign. The voice was that of Berkeley Association of Realtors member Diane Mintz. She won the

NAR 2004 Good Neighbor Award. She tutors inner city kids in nearby Richmond and helps the most needy go on field trips and to camp.

LET'S TALK?

Tell me about it! Real estate related fundraisers, meetings, workshops, promotions, designations and change of scenery (company). Information deadline is two weeks

before the event. Send an email to bobbieheid@mindspring.com or visit my website at www.BobbieReid.com.

Don't miss the Weekly Sales in the Auto Section on D8.

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RE/MAX EXECUTIVE 527-8545 Ury Beary
UryBeary@comcast.net Broker Associate

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How long does \$500,000 home-sale exemption last after spouse dies?

INMAN NEWS FEATURES

Dear Bob: Regarding the \$500,000 principal residence home sale tax exemption, how long does it last after a spouse dies if both spouses owned and lived in the home two of the last five years? — Norma B.

Dear Norma: The surviving spouse has until the end of the tax year of the spouse's death to claim the Internal Revenue Code 121 principal residence sale tax exemption up to \$500,000 for a qualified married couple filing a joint tax return in the year of the death.

But please don't panic and rush to sell the home. Presuming you are the surviving spouse, if your deceased co-owner spouse willed his share of the house to you, then you have a new "stepped-up basis" on that share.

In most situations, you need not be concerned about the lost \$500,000 exemption if you don't sell the home by the end of this year. However, if your deceased spouse was not a co-owner on the title, then you should consider selling the home by the end of 2005 because you received no stepped-up basis as you continue to be the sole owner. Full details are available from your tax adviser.

Two homes; only one principal residence sale tax exemption

Dear Bob: I own two houses, about 75 miles apart. On weekdays, my wife and I stay in one house. On weekends, we go to the other house. We have been doing this for about two years. If we decide to sell our "week-end house," can we qualify for that \$250,000 or \$500,000 tax exemption you often discuss? — Roger F.

Dear Roger: No. To qualify for the \$250,000 principal residence sale tax exemption (up to \$500,000 for a married couple filing a joint tax return), you must have owned and occupied the home at least 24 of the 60 months before its sale as your primary residence.

The house where you spend the weekdays appears to be your principal residence and the other house is your secondary home. Therefore, if you sell that second home, since you can't meet the principal residence test, then your capital gain will be taxed at the 15 percent federal tax rate (or less), plus the state tax rate. Your tax adviser has full details.

No replacement rule for home sale; Seller owes huge tax

Dear Bob: I have been an enthusiastic reader for years, but now I am writing for elderly friends who are selling their large house where they lived for 20 years. They want to "down-size" and buy a smaller house. Their CPA advised them they will owe a huge tax, even after their \$500,000 principal residence sale exemption. But I disagree since they are buying a less expensive home. I've enclosed the numbers. Who is right? — Ernest S.

Dear Ernest: Congratulations on looking out for your elderly friends and for including the details of their home sale. Unfortunately, the CPA is correct and you are mistaken. The old "rollover residence replacement rule" of Internal Revenue Code 1034 no longer applies to home sellers buying replacement homes. That tax break was repealed in 1997.

Uncle Sam presumes the

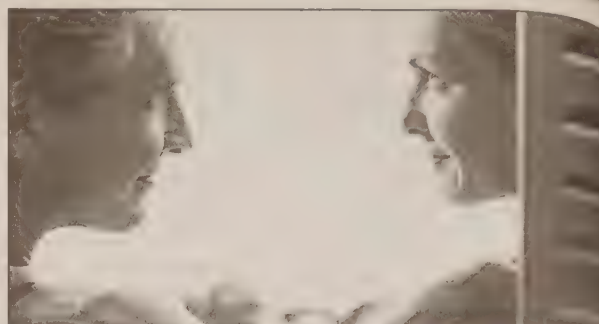


ROBERT BRUSS

\$500,000 principal residence sale capital gains exemption for a married couple (up to \$250,000 for a single home seller) of Internal Revenue Code 121 is enough. Of course, I am presuming your friends owned and occupied their primary home at least 24 of the last 60 months before its sale to qualify for IRC 121.

Although your friends will owe a huge capital gain tax because of their large capital gain exceeding \$500,000, at the current 15 percent federal tax rate plus state tax, they are receiving a big profit on their home sale which they can easily afford to pay.

See BRUSS, Page B7



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Last wk 6.500 This wk 6.500

COMPANY	Loan Product	Rate/Points	APR/Lock	Loan Product	Rate/Points	APR/Lock	Loan Product	Rate/Points	APR/Lock	Loan Product	Rate/Points	APR/Lock	COMMENTS
Ameriave Mortgage Corp.	30-yr Fixed	6.125*	0.875	30-yr Fxd Jumbo	6.125*	1.750	3/1 ARM	5.500*	0.875	5/1 ARM	5.625*	0.875	Best rates & lowest fees guarantee or we pay \$300! www.amerave.com *Not fees apply. Mention ad and get \$ off of fee!
Cal-State Funding	30-yr Fixed	6.375	0.000	30-yr Fxd Jumbo	6.625	0.000	10/1 ARM Jumbo	6.625	0.000	5/1 ARM Jumbo	6.600	0.000	We can fund any type of loan. call us for any loan questions 888-883-5363
CMG Mortgage Services	30-yr Fixed	6.250	1.250	30-yr Fxd Jumbo	6.375	1.250	3/1 ARM Jumbo	6.625	1.375	5/1 ARM Jumbo	6.750	1.375	OPEN SAT & SUN. QUICK QUALIFIER OR NO INCOME LOANS AVAILABLE. NO POINTS LOANS AVAILABLE.
Countrywide Home Loans	30-yr Fixed	6.125	0.000	30-yr Fxd Jumbo	6.375	0.000	Stated Pick A Pmt	6.125	0.000	5/1 ARM IO Jumbo	6.625	0.000	10 day close with a 1500. Credit Specialize in Jumbo loans STATED INCOME OPEN WEEKENDS (510)444-4606
Countrywide Home Lns.	30-yr Fixed	6.125	0.000	30-yr Fxd Jumbo	6.375	0.000	Pay Opt ARM**	6.125	0.000	10 yr ARM Jumbo IO	6.625	0.000	Call 888-340-CAN to talk to your LOCAL CONTRA COSTA BRANCHES. *Contra Costa rates **PotNegAm
ditech.com	30-yr Fixed	6.125	0.000	30-yr Fxd Jumbo	6.375	0.000	15-yr Fixed	6.125	0.000	15-yr Fxd Jumbo	6.625	0.000	Se habla Espanol! Lost another loan to ditech!
Downey Savings & Loan	30-yr Fixed	6.250	1.250	30-yr Fxd Jumbo	6.375	1.250	1-mo COPI ARM	1.950*	1.000	30 Year No Neg Arm	6.625	0.000	Direct lender since 1957. *Pot. neg. arm Great rates and FAST decisions Apply online at www.downeysavings.com
First Blackhawk Financial	30-yr Fixed	6.125	0.000	30-yr Fxd Jumbo	6.375	0.000	5/1 ARM Jumbo	6.125	0.000	5/1 ARM Jumbo	6.250	0.000	JUMBO AND SUPER JUMBO SPECIALIST Call 7 days per week 1 (800) 796-MARY MARY LIGTHTELL mligh@firstblackhawk.com
First City Bancorp	30-yr Fixed	6.250	0.890	30-yr Fxd Jumbo	6.500	0.000	30-yr Flex Fixed	3.125	0.250	30-yr Two Step	5.416	0.000	Call Toll Free 888-52-APPLY E-Mail: max@fco-mortgage.com Check out www.maxhudon.net
GMAC Mortgage	30-yr Fixed	6.250	1.600	30-yr Fxd Jumbo	6.500	1.500	7/1 ARM Jumbo	6.250	1.000	CalHFA 5yr Int onl	6.125*	1.500	*CalHFA rates FTBH income & sales price restrictions www.calhfa.ca.gov Ask about lot loans & construction loans
Los Gatos Lending Connection	30-yr Fixed	6.250	1.875	30-yr Fxd Jumbo	6.500	1.500	30-yr 80k Stated	6.375	0.000	30-yr 417k 2nd Home	6.375	0.000	Ask about lot loans & construction loans
Mid Atlantic Capital	30-yr Fixed	6.125	0.000	30-yr Fxd Jumbo	6.375	0.000	15-yr Fixed	6.125	0.000	MTA	6.125	0.000	A-B-C-D CREDIT OK. NO DOC LOANS TO \$100,000. STATED TO 100% OPEN 7 DAYS. INT. ONLY AVAILABLE. *pot neg arm
Mortgage Market	30-yr Fixed	6.375	0.800	30-yr Fxd Jumbo	6.600	0.500	15-yr Fixed	5.990	0.500	5/1 ARM Jumbo	5.990	0.500	Great Purchase, Refinance, Construction, Home Equity, 100% LTV Loans Great Service, Over 25 years in Business
Mt. Diablo Mortgage	30-yr Fixed	6.500	0.000	30-yr Fxd Jumbo	6.625	0.000	5/1 ARM Jumbo	6.250	0.000	10/1 ARM Jumbo	6.537	0.000	Free approval 24 hours no out of pocket cost loans available appraisal credited at close of escrow
Provident Credit Union	30-yr Fixed	6.750	0.000	30-yr Fxd Jumbo	6.875	0.000	10/1 ARM Jumbo	6.500	0.000	3/1 ARM Jumbo	6.250	0.000	The rates that appear are based on the purchase transaction of \$175,000 for loan forming and \$450,000 Jumbo loans.
Saratoga Bancorp	30-yr Fixed	6.250	1.000	30-yr Fxd Jumbo	6.500	1.000	5/1 ARM Jumbo	6.125	0.000	5/1 ARM	6.125	0.000	1.375% ARM. All Credit/Incomes Fast Home Equity Loans! Purch/Ref to 100%. saratogabancorp.com
Venstar Financial	30-yr Fixed	6.375	0.000	30-yr Fxd Jumbo	6.625	0.000	5/1 ARM Jumbo	6.375	0.000	2/1 ARM Jumbo	5.000	0.000	Option ARM with 1% of start rate Open 7 days a week Call for no obligation pricing comparison
Washington Mutual Home Loan	30-yr Fixed	6.125	0.000	30-yr Fxd Jumbo	6.375	0.000	5/1 ARM Jumbo	6.125	0.000	10/1 ARM Jumbo	6.375	0.000	Purchases/Close in just 10 days! NO POINTS Complimentary Pre-Approval/NO POINTS (925) 255-7171 (866) WAMU-296
Wells Fargo Home Mtg.	30-yr Fixed	6.125	0.000	30-yr Fxd Jumbo	6.375	0.000	10/1 ARM IO	6.125	0.000	5/1 ARM IO	6.125	0.000	PURCHASE - REFI - INVESTORS - CASH/NO Lock In LOW Rate Today! - 925-736-1125 Jumbo - Low/No Fees - Low/No Doc - CALIFIA
A Superior Mortgage	30-yr Fixed	6.375	0.000	30-yr Fxd Jumbo	6.625	0.000	Pay Option Arm	1.000	0.000	15-yr Fixed	6.125	0.000	Open Weekends! Bad Credit OK. *PotNegAm Apply online www.ASuperMortgage.com
Absolute Mortgage Fund.	30-yr Fixed	6.375	0.000	30-yr Fxd Jumbo	6.500	0.250	15-yr Fixed	6.000	0.000	5/1 ARM	5.875	0.000	LOWEST RATES IN THE INDUSTRY! Free Float Downs Lender fees only \$388 CALL 888-80-HOMES
AimLoan.com, A Direct Lender	30-yr Fixed	6.250	0.500	30-yr Fxd Jumbo	6.375	0.375	5/1 ARM	5.750	0.375	7/1 ARM JUMBO	6.125	0.000	Open 7 days a week. www.aimloan.com. Informative website w/current rates/fees

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Rates based on \$175,000 loan for single family residence. Jumbo rates (loans in excess of \$417,000) based on \$450,000 loan. All rates are believed to be accurate and are subject to change without notice. Minimum downpayment requirements and other restrictions may apply. Closing costs may vary. Points include discount fees. APR = annual percentage rate and is calculated by each company - includes costs to obtain loan and private mortgage insurance if required. Lock-in ARM-adjustable rate mortgage Companies pay a fee to be in this Guide. *Ave 30 yr. fixed conforming with 0 points. To determine estimated closing costs for each company, see "Fees" in the "Current Mortgage Rates" section of the mortgage guide website and contact each company for details. DOC# = Licensed by Department of Corporations, DB# = by Department of Real Estate

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Hottest U.S. housing markets Cooling, Realtor association report

BY NUTTING

Home sales are down 1.8 percent in five states and the hottest housing market, the National Association of Realtors said Monday.

Sales dropped 22.2 percent in Arizona, 19.2 percent in California, 18.2 percent in Florida, 15.7 percent in Texas and 15 percent in the Northeast. The real estate group said sales of existing homes were down 1.2 percent year-over-year in the fourth quarter. Sales in 26

states were above the levels of a year ago. Sales fell in 21 states and the District of Columbia. Data is available for three states. The markets now are New York, Montana and North Dakota. Sales up more than 10 percent in each of those states. The industry group said home-price appreciation in the nation's 149 metropolitan areas to 10.3 percent year-over-year from 13.6 percent in the fourth quarter of

2005. In 16 metro areas, median home prices rose by double-digit percentages in 60 areas. Prices fell in 16 metro areas, including San Francisco. In 16 metro areas, median home prices rose by double-digit percentages in 60 areas. Prices fell in 16 metro areas, including San Francisco.

Prices were up 38.4 percent in Phoenix, slightly down 48.9 percent in the fourth quarter, and up 34 percent in Or-

compilment for a

In 2004, my mother fought a long battle with Parkinson's disease. I inherited her free house. On the advice of a friend, I chose Realtor Barb to sell the house. But first she brought up to current market standards. To my great surprise, she went above the call of duty to arrange the repairs. She spent a portion of her sales commission cheerfully paid. The result was the total appreciation of my mother's lawyer. I just would know there are Realtors out there. —

Robert: In the 31 years of writing this column, I think I have first letter I received from a Realtor for out-of-state. Of course, there are other excellent Realtors who deserve praise. But the human nature that makes us write letters about real estate is a good thing. Without realty, we would be out of business. I need a Realtor in California. Be sure to call Barb.

Robert Bruss special Key Questions: Living with Parkinson's. How to Avoid Delays, "is now available from Robert Bruss, author, Burlingame, CA. A credit card at 1-800-444-4444. Internet PDF download at robertbruss.com. For this column are available at the address.

This week's Open Home Guide starts on page B22.

lando, Fla., down from 42 percent in the fourth quarter.

Home price appreciation cooled in all four regions. In the West, prices are up 12 percent in the past

year compared with an 18.9 percent gain the previous quarter. Prices are up 6.7 percent in the Midwest, 6.6 percent in the South and 6.6 percent in the Northeast.

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Featured Properties



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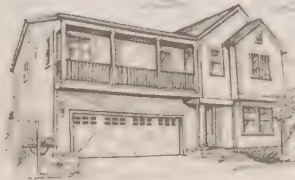
Two absolutely charming turn-of-the-century brown shingle cottages in an exquisite garden setting. Two-bedroom front house w/remodeled kitchen & bath. Back house is 2BRs + office, updated bath & kitchen. Big windows, great color.

\$949,000

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Ann Plant
527.2700 x27



203 SEACLIFF WAY PT. RICHMOND

Live close to the water in this beautiful 3br/2.5ba, 2383sq.ft. home. Gorgeous bay views! Private, spacious master suite w/spa tub and balcony. Upgraded gourmet kitchen, loft/office, bonus room off kitchen. Easy commute to SF, Oakland, Marin.

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Tom Brichta
292-3052



636 WELLESLEY AVE. KENSINGTON

Distinctive 1930 Tudor surrounded by bay & oak trees. Lovely Bay views, 3BRs, 2 baths, formal dining room opens to large wisteria-covered deck, gracious living room w/window seat. Tastefully remodeled kitchen, sunny, park-like back yard.

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Open Sunday 2-4:30



Ron Eggherman
502.7199



Todd Hodson
559.2915



2400 BONAR ST. BERKELEY

Wonderful 3-bedroom, 2-bath home w/great separation of space. Bright kitchen recently updated. Lovely wood floors in the living room lead through French doors to the formal dining room. Beautiful landscaped yard with a garden patio.

\$589,000

Open Sun 2-4:00



Alexis Greenberg
527.2700 x 16



818 Craft Ave. El Cerrito

Situated atop a private drive w/glorious views of the bay & GG Bridge. Rare opportunity to own your own compound. Mature fruit trees, in-law or au pair, art studio & workshop. 11,000+sq.ft.lot.

\$870,000

Open Sun 2-4:00

Visit this property @ kathieberg.com



1228 54th Street Emeryville

Fantastic opportunity to own a townhouse-style duplex on a quiet cul-de-sac. Units are identical 2br/1ba. Double detached garage plus off-street parking. Garden w/sheltered patio

\$589,000

Open Sun 2-4:00

Alice & Anita Wilson 524.0800



2528 Oakwood Ct. San Pablo

This charming 1983 two-story home with a huge yard is in a secluded cul-de-sac. 3BRs, 2.5 baths, living room w/high ceiling, fireplace, formal dining, remodeled kitchen. Two-car garage.

\$539,000

Open Sun 2-4:00

Herman Sun 527.9111



3430 San Pablo Dam Rd. San Pablo

Best price, location and value. This 2-bedroom, 1.5 bath townhouse is in a relaxing park-like setting with many upgrades and amenities, including in-unit laundry and large storage unit.

\$339,000

Open Sun 1-3:00

Tony Wise 527.9111

2156 Ward Street Berkeley

Stunning Victorian Mansion! Recent recipient of prestigious BAHF preservation award for interior and exterior. 4++ bedrooms, 4 baths.

\$1,400,000

Contact agent

Gloria Polanski 524.0800

1532 Santa Clara Richmond Annex

Spectacular panoramic SF, Golden Gate, Oakland & Marin views! Two-BR, one-bath home on the hill w/family room added to take advantage of the views. Huge 7500 sq.ft. lot for expansion.

\$535,000

Open Sun 2-4:00

Joan Underwood 527.9111

2313 N. 6th Street Concord

New Price! Holbrook Heights Devlp. Immaculate 3BR, 2BA 1-level home. Gleaming hardwood floors, freshly painted interior & exterior, updated kitchen. Clear pest control report.

\$509,900

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Darrell Hoh 524.0800

405 Ashbury Avenue El Cerrito

Great two-bedroom, one-bath home in prime El Cerrito location. Fresh paint, remodeled kitchen, new crown molding, hardwood floors. Close to schools, EC Plaza, BART & buses. Must see!

\$475,000

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open sunday

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3 bedrooms, 3.5 baths, updated kitchen, hardwood floors, two-level deck, 2,668 sq. ft. living space, 12,150 sq. ft. lot.

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257 38th St., Open Sunday 2-4:30

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6501 CHABOT ROAD, OAKLAND

This 3 bedroom Tudor has huge rooms, lots of light & tree-filled yard. The family room / library opens to a sprawling patio & deep veranda. It's close to campus, BART, freeways & College Avenue. View a photo at www.heidiandjerry.com. LISTED AT \$1,000,000

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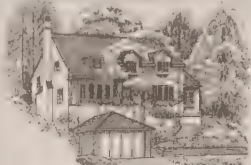
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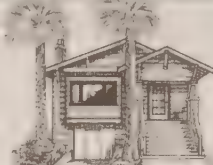
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OAKLAND - NEW! \$369,000
1/1 - Vintage condo. Tile & hardwood floors throughout. French doors enclose the bedroom. Gourmet kitchen. Patio & garden area 590 55th Street Open 1-5



OAKLAND - NEW! \$1,075,000
3/1.5 - Fabulous Tudor. Lovely details, lots of lights, huge rooms, family room / library opens to patio & deep garden. www.herdandjerry.com 6501 Chabot Road Open 2-4:30



OAKLAND - NEW! \$765,000
3+2 - Rockridge Craftsman. Living room with fireplace, separate dining room, eat-in kitchen, hardwood floors, garden with hot tub. 5308 Manila Avenue Open 2-4



OAKLAND \$1,149,000
FOURPLEX - Rare opportunity to condo convert a trophy building in the Glenview. Beautiful inside & out, this is a must see! 3746 Park Boulevard Way Open 2-4



OAKLAND \$459,000
2/1 - Wonderful, well maintained home plus art studio. Hardwood floors, front and back yard. Near Laurel district shops & cafes. 2913 Viola Street Open 2-4



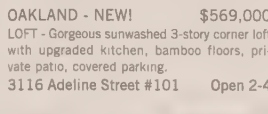
OAKLAND \$365,000
1/1 - Condo in a coveted Adams Point building. Jazzy unit with fireplace, great views, large patio and much more. 325 Vernon Street #102 Open 2-4



OAKLAND \$499,000
LOFT - Raw design with industrial feel. Master bedroom retreat, flex space, 2 baths, 2-car garage with roll-up door. Approx. 1,268 sq.ft. 2323 Magnolia Street #9 Open 2-4



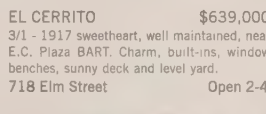
OAKLAND \$739,000
3/2.5 - Beautiful Montclair home has new bamboo floors & new carpet upstairs, updated kitchen with granite counters 6670 Sobrante Road Open 2-4:30



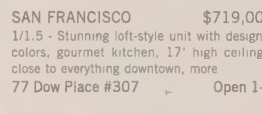
OAKLAND - NEW! \$569,000
LOFT - Gorgeous sunwashed 3-story corner loft with upgraded kitchen, bamboo floors, private patio, covered parking. 3116 Adeline Street #101 Open 2-4



OAKLAND \$345,000-\$362,000 each
6 LOFTS - In a very cool warehouse conversion with mezzanines, stained concrete, marble, skylights & more! www.saragabedian.com 2201 West Street Open 2-4



EL CERRITO \$639,000
3/1 - 1917 sweetheart, well maintained, near E.C. Plaza BART. Charm, built-ins, window benches, sunny deck and level yard. 718 Elm Street Open 2-4



SAN FRANCISCO \$719,000
1/1.5 - Stunning loft-style unit with designer colors, gourmet kitchen, 17' high ceilings close to everything downtown, more 77 Dow Place #307 Open 1-5



BERKELEY \$785,000
DUPLEX - Glorious golden duplex on huge lot. Upstairs: 2/1.5 + large attic. Downstairs 2/1. www.justsellmyhouse.com 2208 7th Street Open 2-4



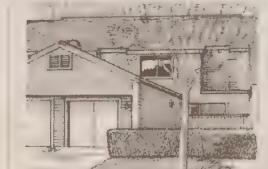
BERKELEY \$769,000
4/3 - Fabulous 4-year old home in thriving "Left Bank" neighborhood. Designer kitchen, gleaming wood floors. www.herdandjerry.com 1127 Bancroft Way Open 2-4



KENSINGTON \$1,265,000
5/3.5 - Spacious Contemporary on quiet cul-de-sac. 2-story grand entry, 2 fireplaces, sunroom, hardwood floors, views. Kensington schools 37 Lam Court Open 2-5



PITTSBURG \$475,000
4/2 - Spacious home in move in condition on large corner lot. Fireplace, eat-in kitchen, 2003 new roof, rumpus room. Near Los Medanos College 3915 Meadowbrook Circle Open 2-4



RICHMOND \$425,000
2/2.5 - Contemporary townhouse in desirable area. Fireplace, formal dining room, private deck. Move-in condition. Community pool & tennis 2545 Groveview Drive Open 1:30-4:30



RICHMOND \$725,000
3/2.5 - All new Hardi Plank siding, 50-year roof, Blomberg windows, large backyard, fireplace, 2-car garage. www.kateandmark.com 11 Seabreeze Drive Open 1-4



RICHMOND \$599,000
3/3 - Spacious custom built home. Kitchen & bathroom updated with quality materials. Huge family room opens to backyard. 5200 Gordon Avenue Open 2-4:30



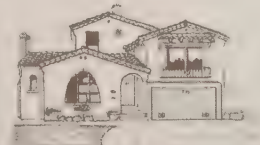
RICHMOND \$729,000
3/2 - Single family home in beautiful Breakers community. Upgraded kitchen with granite & top of the line appliances 70 Southwind Circle Open 2-5

[june 4th]

by appointment



ALBANY \$739,000
3/1 - Charming 1-level home. Formal living room with fireplace, formal dining room, hardwood floors, artist studio in yard & more.



ALBANY \$699,000
3/1.5 - Contractors dream! Mediterranean in the heart of Albany. Formal living room with fireplace, formal dining room, lots of light.



BERKELEY \$1,050,000
3/3.5 - Beautifully restored 1914 Tudor near Berkeley's Rose Walk with sweeping Bay views, all new baths, kitchen & deck



BERKELEY \$439,000
2/1 - Sweet cottage, one of two condos in the heart of Westbrae. Generous kitchen, large private garden. Simplicity and beauty



OAKLAND \$1,250,000
3/3 - Fantastic 2,400 sq.ft. Contemporary. Completely remodeled with high-end finishing touches. www.charliecookproperties.com



OAKLAND \$743,800
3/1.5 - Crocker Highlands charmer! First time on the market in 40 years! Very well maintained. Home exemplifies pride of ownership!



RICHMOND \$475,000
3/1 - Gracious home with formal dining room, hardwood floors, upgraded kitchen & bath, fenced yard, 2-car garage.



SAN PABLO \$399,995
3/2 - End unit townhouse ready to move in to. Large living room, private patio, inside laundry, 1-car garage. Near International Marketplace.

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Home buyers: The bottom line really does matter

BY MARSHALL LOEB
MARKETWATCH

Talk of the end of the real estate boom is on everyone's lips along with advice that buyers should start playing hardball again. That means more than making a low offer in a declining market.

Experts are telling home buyers they can and should ask sellers for extras, such as a year of mortgage payments or picking up all closing costs. And Realtors, who saw their ranks swell with rookies during the last few years, may also be willing to take a much smaller cut of the deal.

But not so fast, says Rhonda Duffy of Duffy Realty in Atlanta, a flat-fee brokerage. She takes a contrarian view on how home buyers should handle what could

be a pause or a serious housing downturn.

While some overheated residential markets — Southern California, Florida — may see prices drop significantly, elsewhere homes are simply sitting on the market longer.

Even in Atlanta, where home prices haven't swelled as much and so a bursting bubble is less likely, there are still four homes on the market for every one buyer.

So instead of it taking a week-end to sell, now it takes a month, or two or six.

That's partly due to the Internet, which allows prospective buyers to look at hundreds of listings online and view maps of sales and estimated values in a neighborhood, according to Duffy,

who says the glut of information has slowed the process down.

Instead of muddying up the contract with requests for extras, she counsels, buyers would do well to focus on the bottom line. Too many caveats can frustrate a seller, for whom the deal is as much an emotional decision as it is a rational business transaction. That's the opposite of what some others are saying, she admits.

And don't expect your lowball offer to be snapped up by anxious sellers. People are already gearing up for longer waits on the market.

In fact, says Duffy, agents will do much of the hard work for you in bargaining the price down. In a flat market, they're more anxious to get the commission on a sale than to get a high price.

How paint, color can impact your living space

PAINT QUALITY INSTITUTE

The words "paint" and "personality" aren't often used together, but they certainly could be. "Studies show that paint and room color can have an effect on the body and mind," states Debbie Zimmer, color and decorating expert with the Rohm and Haas Paint Quality Institute. By understanding the impact of color, consumers can better incorporate the hues that help create the desired living space mood and setting that best suits their family and personal lifestyle.

When repainting a room, here are some simple guidelines you should know about the hues. Here's what you should keep in mind:

■ Red packs a wallop, physiologically speaking, increasing blood pressure, heartbeat and energy in most people. It instills feelings of intimacy and passion. Red also increases the appetite, which explains why it is used so often in restaurants, and why it can be a good choice for a formal dining room.

■ Orange, like red, tends to warm a room, but in a more friendly and welcoming way. As a result, paints in various shades and tints of orange work well in living rooms and family rooms.

■ Yellow is also warm and welcoming, but it is more attention-getting than either red or orange. For this reason, it is a good paint color to use in poorly lit foyers or dark hallways.

■ Blue, which is part of the cool color palette, makes us feel calm and tranquil, so it is ideal for use in bedrooms. But since blue works as an appetite suppressant (per-

haps because there are few blue foods) it is not the best option for a dining room — unless you're on a diet.

■ Green is another relaxing color that is much more versatile than blue. Light greens are ideal for bedrooms and living rooms; mid-tones are good for kitchens and dining rooms (many foods are green). Also, because green is calming, it is often used in hospitals, workplaces and schools.

■ Violet is a tricky color, psychologically speaking. Many

adults dislike purples, but are fond of the rose family, which can work in many rooms, including dining rooms, bedrooms and libraries. Young children, on the other hand, respond favorably to violet, so this color can be used successfully in children's bedrooms and play areas.

Signup for the Rohm and Haas Paint Quality Institute do-it-yourself newsletter by simply logging on to www.paintquality.com.

For more information visit www.rohmhaas.com.

open sunday

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. A gracious Crocker Highlands traditional with four + bedrooms, two baths up. Spacious living room with adjoining study. Formal dining room with exquisite built-ins. Eat-in-kitchen opens level out to sunny rear deck with views. Large lawn and garden. Great neighborhood close to shopping, restaurants and transportation.

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- * Hardwood floors
- * Fireplace
- * Entertainment Room
- * Dining Room
- * New interior and exterior paint

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Fabulous Four-Plex in Berkeley

Listed for \$895,000

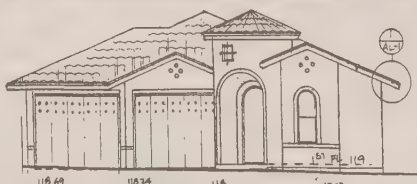


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2753 Buena Vista Way, Berkeley
Open Sunday, 2:00 - 4:30

Amongst the distinctive houses in this coveted neighborhood is this 1914 Wm. C. Hayes Florentine Shingle Palazzo, w/arched entrance & loggia. Like a new house with award-winning restoration & remodel & a recent addition. 4 bdms, 3.5 baths includes mstr & guest suites, spectacular views, superb indoor/outdoor, lush landscaped yard & in mint condition.

Norah Brower x26 New Price \$1,695,000



219 Plumpoint Lane, San Ramon
Open Saturday & Sunday 1:00 - 4:00

Fine suburban living in a fabulous location! Near shops, restaurants and Blackhawk Plaza. Entry opens to bright, open living/dining area with vaulted ceilings. Two master suites, office, 2.5 baths. Dine alfresco on the brick patio & landscaped yard and enjoy the summer in the common pool & playground.

Gertrude Villanueva x42 \$655,000



373 - 40th Street, #3, Oakland
Open Sunday, 2:00 - 4:00

Stylish warehouse loft w/original wood-beam ceiling, brick walls, private patio, radiant heat skylights, "green" materials & incredible common garden area. Feels like a village. 1+ bdms, 1+ bath urban oasis near BART & Piedmont Ave.

Norah Brower x26 \$549,000



1627-1629 1/2 Francisco, Berkeley
By Appointment

New listing! 2 well maintained buildings each unit with its own charm. Great location North Berkeley BART. One vacant "rental" unit. Call listing agent for scheduled tour of this special property.

Arlene Baxter x19



324 Pomona Ave., El Cerrito
Open Sunday, 2:00 - 4:30

New listing! Charming split-level 2-bedroom home. Great location close to Ferrell El Cerrito Plaza. Beautiful, lush front yard, deck off kitchen, big backyard, updated country kitchen. Large laundry room, garage and outside. Art for extra viewing.

Maya Trilling x18

"I also wanted to tell you how much I appreciate your newsletter - very thoughtful and informative. Thank you for being such a great community resource. You are such a dynamic company and team!"

- K.B., Oakland

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502 SUPERIOR AVE.

Elegant tri-level home, 3 bdrm/2 bath, oak hardwood floors, French doors, extra large corner lot, 2 fireplaces, crown molding, charming tiled family rm., det. office, large backyard w/rose garden. \$799,500

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1400 CARPENTIER ST. #210

2 Bdrm/2 Bath - Beautiful condo at Pacific Plaza. Close to BART. \$450,000

14390 OUTRIGGER DR.

2 Bdrm PENDING

\$430,000

1162 LOUISE ST.

PENDING

\$300,000

15300 LAVERNE DR.

3 Bdrm/2 Bath SOLD

\$635,000 In Manor

OAKLAND

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4727 DAVENPORT AVE.

3 Bdrm/1.5 Bath - Lovely family home w/view "Handyman Special" \$589,000

3800 MAYBELLE AVE. #12

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sales stats.
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the Weekly
Sales in the
Auto
Section on
page D8.

4190 Laguna, Oakland



A RETREAT IN THE CITY!! POOL INCLUDED!!

Spectacular Lincoln Heights split-level home with a view of the Bay. This spacious 3 bedroom/3 bath home has amenities galore: Brazilian hardwood and tile floors, updated kitchen with stainless steel appliances and breakfast bar, family room with a brick fireplace, home office, downstairs den and bonus room. Custom features include: indoor BBQ grill, built-in bookcases, and storage and indoor/outdoor speakers. The master suite and family room open to the sunny patio, pool and hot tub. **Offered at \$925,000.**

Virtual tour at www.circlex.com/home2/KWH384



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California Realty

Ellen Posey
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JUST LISTED

Open Sunday 2-5 pm



Jack London Square Loft
247 4th Street #208
Offered at \$549,000

Spacious historical loft conversion in the heart of Jack London Square's Warehouse district. Includes modern kitchen with stainless steel appliances, hardwood floors, carpeted sleeping mezzanine, shared roof deck with city views, laundry, parking and in-loft storage.

Location combines the best of city living with waterfront entertainment. Within walking distance to top restaurants, movies, stores, and farmers markets. Offers easy commutes, close to highways 24/980/880, BART, Amtrak, and ferry.

Info & pictures at www.loft208.com

Jeff Roberts
Claremont Office
Prudential California Realty
VM 510-466-5446
CL 510 390-6490

Jeff.Roberts@Prurealty.com



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March



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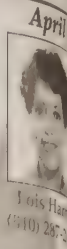
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Exquisite 1926 residence of distinctive style & design. Grand formal rooms, 3+ bedrooms/3+ baths, vaulted ceiling, carved beams, arched doorways, fabulous architectural details.

Offered at \$1,049,000

Visit www.DoloresThom.com for
photos & more information and to view all
active East Bay listings



1397 Barrows Road

Adorable 1940's home just off the Glen Road features living room built-ins & fireplace, 2 bedrooms bath, sweet upgraded kitchen, remodeled bath, garage and back

Offered at \$689,000

Dolores Thom
Fine Homes Specialist
510/834-2010 Office
510/835-6080 VM
510/290-1218 Cell



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California Realty

FEATURED HOMES



OAKLAND
Sunday 1-4 \$675,000
6323 Valley View Rd. 2BR/2BA + in-law, decks, garage, Valley View.
CP Yang (510) 834-2010



EL CERRITO
Sunday 2-5 \$1,590,000
7304 Pebble Beach Dr. Great 5BR/5BA home with S.F., Bay, golf course view & pool.
Wendy T. Loew (510) 868-1400



BERKELEY
Claremont One-Level \$995,000
Light-filled, sophisticated contemporary near Rockridge BART, shops. 3BR/2BA
Julie Lehman (510) 915-7207



RICHMOND
Sunday 2-4 \$389,000
442 36th St. Charming NEE 2BR with delightful garden. Close to BART.
Barbara Reynolds (510) 868-1400



OAKLAND
Sunday 1-4 \$389,000
1910 Chestnut St. Nicely maintained 2500 sq ft w/spacious backyard. Loc. on a tree-lined street minutes of Jack London Sq., Lake Merritt & BART.
Eric N. Silverman (510) 494-4444

ALAMEDA
Sat/Sun 2-4 \$1,299,000
334 Tideway Dr. 37' dock. Incredible Tour: www.PruRealty.com/NancyBlom
Nancy Blom (510) 610-6126
Sunday 12-4:30 \$539,000
1152 Admiralty Lane. Must see townhouse. Motivated seller.
Gregory Garrett (510) 868-1523

BERKELEY
Sunday 2-5 \$995,000
60 Eucalyptus. Secluded, sunny one-level, near BART, shops! 3BR/2BA.
Julie Lehman (510) 845-0211
Sunday 2-4:30 \$625,000
Charming 3BR/2BA cottage. Updated. New rear deck & stucco.
Viviana Laurs (510) 910-3482
Sunday 1-4 \$375,000
771 San Luis Rd. 1BR/1BA with view of S.F. & G.G. Bridge.
CP Yang (510) 834-2010

EL CERRITO
Smogsters For Sale \$145,000
Good business in great location & opportunity.
Angela Fireweger (510) 527-9800

HAYWARD
Quiet Neighborhood \$569,000
3BR/2.5BA, hardwood floors, located San Lorenzo/Hayward border. Call to view.
Kathy Gill (510) 676-2670
One-Year-New 2BR/2BA \$137,900
Vaulted ceilings, open floor plan, close to shops - Senior Community.
Kathy Gill (510) 676-2670
Cozy Mobile Home \$55,000
Located in family park. 1BR/1BA, eat-in kitchen, laundry room w/storage.
Kathy Gill (510) 676-2670

HERCULES
Sat/Sun 1-4 \$745,000
106 Jacaranda. 3BR/2.5BA.
Eric Jim (510) 717-1319

KENSINGTON
Sunday 2-5 \$869,000
15 Franciscan Way. 4BR/3BA, glorious Bay view, updates galore!
Pattie Holm (510) 527-9800

OAKLAND
Sunday 1-4 \$2,600,000
6037 Skyline Blvd. Private 4+BR/5BA Mediterranean villa with panoramic Bay views.
Heidi Marchessotti (510) 339-9290

One-Level Contemporary \$1,200,000
Piedmont side Montclair 3BR/2BA mid-century w/lab indoor-outdoor flow. New kitchen. Large level lot.
Vickie & Aleso (510) 428-0900

Best Buy 8-Plex \$875,000
Booming Oakland New Chinatown, fully rented. Excellent condition.
Mayling Trinh (510) 834-2010

Sunday 2-5 \$775,000
2582 Leimert. 2+BR/2BA large, one level, chef's kitchen, hardwood floors, patio.
John Forrest Bell (510) 834-2010

Sun 2-4:30 \$759,000
4107 Lyman Road. Stylish 2+BR/1.5BA storybook Tudor in Oakmore.
Kristo Makris (510) 339-9290

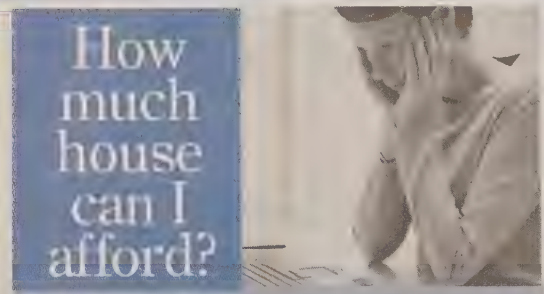
Sunday 2-5 \$729,000
5119 Desmond St. Charming Craftsman 2BR/1BA, formal dining room.
Gina Chrys (510) 428-0900

Sunday 2-4 \$695,000
1776 Excelsior. Glenview. Charming Craftsman tri-plex. All vacant!
Barbara Reynolds (510) 868-1400

Sunday 1-4 \$679,000
627 Spruce. 3+BR/2BA Haddon Hill, lovely Craftsman!
Roxanne Wong (510) 834-2010

Sunday 1-4 \$639,000
668 Athol Ave. 2BR/2BA.
John Abbott (510) 219-6334

Sunday 2-4 \$599,000
1639 11th Ave. Single family home, converted to duplex 2BR/1BA. 1BR/1BA near Lake Merritt.
Kathy Dittmer (510) 428-0900



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OAKLAND
Sunday 2-4:30 \$559,000
3706 Hillview Street. Laurel 3BR/2BA bungalow with park-like, oasis yard.
David Otero.com (510) 339-9290

Great Income Property \$550,000
Two homes on one lot, both 2BR/2BA. Triplex potential. Tenant occup.
Charlotte Delahousaye (510) 909-3926

Sunday 2-5 \$549,000
247 4th St. #208. Large historic loft, Jack London Square. www.Loft208.com
Jeff Roberts (510) 845-0211

Sunday 2-5 \$549,000
2162 Harrington Avenue. Spacious 3BR/2BA farmhouse on huge lot!
Chris Hansen (510) 339-9290

Sunday 2-4:30 \$499,000
7817 Greenly Dr. Sweet 2+BR/1BA starter with large, private lot!
Luerella Jacobs (510) 339-9290

OAKLAND
Sunday 2-4:30 \$499,000
3827 Kansas St. New listing! Sunny 2+BR/1BA bungalow in Laurel District.
Millie Lombardi (510) 339-9290

Sunday 1-4 \$488,000
4517 Fairfax. 2+BR/1BA and 1BR/1BA. Both vacant! Shows great!
Jeanette Vento (510) 845-0211

Sunday 1-5 \$479,500
8033 Earl Street. New listing! Charming 2BR/1BA southwestern-style bungalow.
Erik Johnson (510) 339-9290

Sunday 2-4:30 \$330,000
567 Oakland Ave. #208. 1BR/1BA condo, Gramscoun crown trim. Close to shops.
Tom Kilgallen (510) 428-0900

OAKLAND
Sunday 2-5 \$389,000
425 Orange #316. Bright unit, balcony, convenient location.
Vickie & Aleso (510) 428-0900

PIEDMONT
Sunday 2-5 \$389,000
220 Howard. Classic Piedmont craftsman. 2BR/1BA, near beach, close to BART.
Herman Luna (510) 428-0900

RICHMOND
Price Reduced! \$389,000
4BR/2BA. 2-car garage. Lot approx. 1/2 acre at end of cul-de-sac.
Veronica Arreola (510) 868-1400

Please Call Agent \$375,000
1,176 sq. ft., laundry nook, w/4-5' x 6' x 8' 2BR/2BA condo. 3742 Stoneglan.
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WALNUT CREEK
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Exquisite in every way! 2BR/1BA w/2nd floor beautiful court.
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Upper 2BR/1BA boasts new carpet, w/4-5' x 6' x 8' & washer/dryer.
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your move is as much as the closing process as the business and getting the time to do it right. begin planning as soon as possible. has been accepted and the seller have signed the contract.

possession: Your contract specifies the date and you get the keys and take possession. That most likely will be the closing day, although the seller can set any time. The seller prefer not to vacate until closing day. That is the day you can move out.

you move in, be sure to have the house again for moving. If you need repairs (if the house is not completed, your contract should specify how to resolve them). If the seller needs to be out of the house for a period of time, you should be the one to move out. If the seller is called a seller rent-back, the seller requires the buyer to pay the seller's mortgage payment. If the house is vacant before the closing day, you may want to have the house painted. Most experts recommend that you postpone your move until the house is officially yours.

moving a mover: Obtain estimates from three licensed movers to get a choice. Have an

should begin your offer has been accepted and the seller has signed the contract.

from each company you should visit your house to see the items you are moving. Get an estimate. Verbal estimates are not binding so make sure you get a written one. In most cases, you will get a "best" estimate. This will limit your liability to the amount of the estimate. If the move ends up being less than the estimated amount, you will pay the lower amount.

moving a mover: Price is an important factor in choosing a mover. Service can be just as important. Moving is stressful, even if it's a small move. Be wary of a bid that is below all other estimates. A low bid can indicate that the mover is trying to buy your business. You can be a sign of inexperienced movers. You are trusting a stranger with your belongings, so make sure you feel confident that the mover will provide the level of service you need.

moving money: getting money by getting money. If you don't want before you move, you can get money by getting money. If you don't want before you move, you can get money by getting money. If you don't want before you move, you can get money by getting money.

all openings in the space in elevators and doors. You want to make sure you have enough clearance to access your possessions. If you have your own inventory, you should make sure you have enough space to store your possessions. If you have your own inventory, you should make sure you have enough space to store your possessions. If you have your own inventory, you should make sure you have enough space to store your possessions.

change the locks on your door. You may or may not choose to change the locks on your door. You may or may not choose to change the locks on your door. You may or may not choose to change the locks on your door.

your receipts: You may want to keep some of your receipts. You may want to keep some of your receipts. You may want to keep some of your receipts.

Page B15

coming soon

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. Gracious, architecturally significant duplex in a desirable Lakeshore neighborhood. Updated, light-filled, spacious two bedroom, one bath units, reminiscent of Parisian flats. High ceilings and hardwood floors. Fireplace and formal dining room in each unit. Sunny and private garden. Huge development potential for partially finished lower level. Attached garage and off-street parking.

Offered at \$1,150,000



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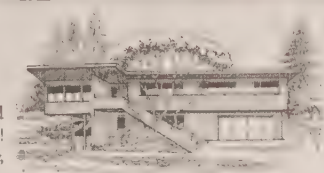
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starr@grubbco.com



shown by appointment

Fabulous park-like setting with a distinguished mid-century home designed by Hans Oswald! Five bedrooms, three baths, family room, study, formal dining room and attached two-car garage. Breathtaking views!

Offered at \$1,550,000



1097 Creston Road
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BEBE McRAE
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open sunday

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. Hollywood sophistication and style! This spectacular all level home opens to a large black bottom pool and spacious patio, ideal for entertaining. Located on a quiet, exclusive street in Piedmont Pines this three bedroom, two and one half bath home is perfect for an easy lifestyle.

Offered at \$998,000



74 Castle Park Way, Oakland

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www.northbrae.com

Northbrae Properties

Just \$499,000

Northbrae Properties

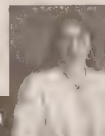
Heidi Abramson
510-757-7671
Heidi@Northbrae.com

1600 Hopkins Street, Berkeley 94707 • 510-526-4336

Charming 2BD/2BA
Berkeley home in need of TLC.

Up & coming neighborhood. An incredible opportunity.

Close to proposed new West Berkeley Bowl



This is the home you've been waiting for!
Great price in a friendly neighborhood close to historic San Pablo Park!

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RICHMOND VIEW



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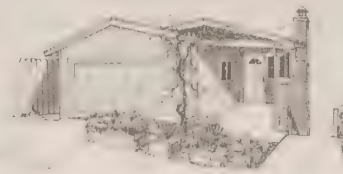
\$549,950

3BR 2BA w/large family rm w/fireplace, skylight & wet bar, master suite, huge laundry room, earthquake retrofitted, 1-car attached garage w/interior access to kitchen, lovely yard, hardwood throughout. Don't miss!

www.geristern.com

Open Sun 2-4:30

(510) 662-8469



STUNNING CONTEMPORARY IN THE HILLS - SCREAMING DEAL!
6249 HIGHLAND AVE.

\$619,000

5BR 2BA tri-level includes master suite, 2-car attached garage w/interior access, new paint in & out, gorgeous refinished hardwood floors, large country kitchen, lovely living room w/fireplace, new roof, new landscaping, all dual pane windows, earthquake retrofitting, potential in-law downstairs w/separate entrance. Home over 2,100 sq. ft. Great buy!

www.geristern.com

(510) 662-8469

UNIQUE CONTEMPORARY
629 KERN

\$585,000

3BR 2BA unique Eichleresque contemporary w/walls of windows, indoor-outdoor flow to gorgeous yard & garden decks, Bay & city views, in-law or home office potential. 2 master suites, sitting room, family room, morning room & bonus space, gleaming hardwood floors - must see!

www.carladellazoppa.com

Open Sun 2-4

(510) 662-8558

AFFORDABLE REMODELED HOME

\$435,000

2BR 1BA remodeled home w/NEW: paint, carpet, tile flooring, roof & gutters, granite counters in kitchen, remodeled bath, dual pane windows, and automatic roll-up garage door! #40158521.

Scott Reback

(510) 662-8473

FABULOUS TRIPLEX

\$775,000

Each unit is 2BR 1BA. Front detached home original, rear duplex built in 1993. All units have been remodeled within the last few months. Beautiful upgrades in all units. Perfect for owner/investor. #40171126

Jason Sterlino

(510) 207-5824



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Northbrae Properties

Just Listed!

This is the home you've been waiting for! Close to historic San Pablo Park & proposed site of new West Berkeley Bowl. Charming 2BD/2BA Berkeley home in need of some TLC. Located in an up and coming neighborhood, this is an incredible opportunity! Lots of potential, lots of charm. Offered at just \$499,000.

Charming duplex near Glenview shops & new Farmer Joe's Market! Live in one unit while obtaining income from the other! Classic design includes 1BD/1BA each, hardwood floors, built-ins & more. Lovely backyard complete with creek! Offered at just \$585,000.

Adorable, affordable cottage condo in Crocker Highlands! Remodeled from the foundation to the roof in 2000 - now with new appliances - this free-standing unit is located on lovely grounds. 1BD/1BA, just 1 of 4 units, formal dining room, fireplace, hardwood & more. Offered at just \$429,000.

Call 510/526-4336 for more information!

Celebrating 25 Years Of Excellence

Northbrae Properties—1600 Hopkins Street, Berkeley 94707—510/526-4336—www.northbrae.com



Just Listed!



Just Listed!



Just Listed!

Please be kind to the environment.
Recycle this newspaper.

3 New Listings



1120 TALBOT AVE., ALBANY
#147 - CHARMING home located in a desirable part of Albany. Close to day care, library, school and shopping.
\$449,900



28836 BAILEY RANCH RD., HAYWARD
#167 - Largest model & best value in Bailey Ranch! Tons of living space in this contemporary home. Beautiful large tile floors in family room. Upgraded master bath w/ jetted tub. Walking distance from new elementary school, country club, trails w/ sweeping view of the bay.
\$1,359,000



SPLENDID VIEW
#173 - Great Room design with wraparound deck - ideal for entertaining. Near new construction & finished 4-car garage.
ONLY \$695,000

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OPEN SUNDAY 2:00PM-4:30PM

BY APPOINTMENT

300 JAYNE \$885,000

Adams Point. Originally a grand home of five plus bedrooms. Now a spacious 4-plex which units could easily be combined to make a great owner's unit. Three units delivered vacant! Reports available.

Frank Hennefer 531-7000 x235



5639 CABOT DRIVE \$815,000

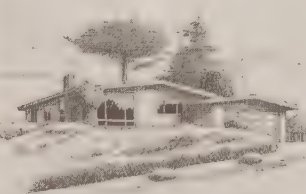
Montclair. Lovely three bedroom, two and a half bath traditional home just steps away from the village on a quiet street. Huge level back yard, deck plus patio. Completely redone with new kitchen & baths, new paint in & out, gorgeous hardwood floors, & much more!

Tracy Butler 531-7000 x232

5816 SHATTUCK AVENUE \$649,000

Oakland. Triplex with owner's three bedroom, two bath over two large one bedroom, one bath. Fireplaces, individual hot water tanks & separately metered for low expenses. Two garages & a long driveway offer plenty of parking.

Catherine Vallee 531-7006 x258



7819 POTRERO AVENUE \$599,000

El Cerrito. New Listing! Well maintained three bedroom, two bath mid-century beauty on lovely street in El Cerrito Hills, up from Del Norte BART station. French doors out to sunny patio with room above for happy gardening. Vaulted, beamed ceiling, brick fireplace in living room. Easy flowing floor plan.

Don Dunning 531-7000 x239

3882 SHAFTER AVENUE \$598,000

Lower Temescal. Charming turn of the century farmhouse with a wonderful garden. There are two bedrooms, one bathroom upstairs and non-conforming one bedroom unit downstairs. Near BART, Kaiser Hospital & Piedmont Ave. This 5900 sqft lot gives you great potential.

Kevin P. Kennedy 531-7000 x204



3045 MADELINE STREET \$565,000

Laurel. Enjoy the best of both worlds, a marvelous neighborhood, & an updated home! This stylish two bedroom, one bathroom bungalow in Oakland's Laurel district offers a new foundation, updated eat-in-kitchen & bathroom, bonus areas, new dual paned windows, beautifully landscaped front and back yards, a detached garage with extra separate room and a long driveway.

Carol Robbiano 531-7000 x292



2832 MONTICELLO AVE. \$559,000

Maxwell Park. Light filled three bedroom, one bath with original charm and upgrades! Refinished hardwood floors, living and dining room with built-in cabinets, tastefully remodeled kitchen and bath, master bedroom with French doors leading to large Redwood deck with bay view, huge basement with expansion potential, great yard with hot tub and fruit trees-a gardener's delight!

Kate Phillips 531-7000 x228

413-415 SAN PABLO AVENUE \$529,000

Rodeo. Bayside two units: two bedroom, two bath & two bedroom, one bath. Remodeled units, large kitchen, backyard, porches, garage, long secured driveway. Near Marina with view of the Bay.

Open Sunday 11:30-1:30

Catherine Vallee 531-7006 x258

5225 FAIRSIDE WAY \$495,000

Antioch. Price Reduced \$30K! Come see this simply stunning three bedroom, two bath home in Antioch featuring a gorgeous gourmet kitchen, landscaped yard, & wonderful open floor plan. Photos at www.rockridgedigs.com. Don't miss this one!

Elisa Uribe 531-7000 x272



2222 57TH AVENUE \$410,000

Oakland. Charming home in an up & coming neighborhood! Two bedroom, one bath home, formal dining room, living room with fireplace, Eat-in-kitchen, large basement that can be a bonus room. Big backyard & detached garage. Some hardwood floors.

Open Saturday 1:00-3:30

Teri L. Lester 531-7000 x262

BY APPOINTMENT



OWN A PIECE OF HISTORY! \$525,000

Park Boulevard. This three bedroom, two bath Victorian was built in the 1800's. Featuring, formal dining room with fireplace, living room, master bedroom with patio. Smaller back yard, basement, & an attached garage. With beautiful Victorian detail, this home is worth the time to view!

Teri L. Lester 531-7000 x262

CHARMING BUNGALOW \$520,000

San Leandro. Fairmont Park, Great Neighborhood! Make this two bedroom, one bath bungalow your own. Enjoy refinished hardwood floors, fresh paint, & a fireplace in living room. There is a patio & huge back yard, & the garage has lots of work space.

Carol Robbiano 531-7000 x292

TOP FLOOR CONTEMPORARY \$410,000

Park Boulevard. Enjoy this stylish two bedroom, two bathroom condo with vaulted ceilings, downtown views and lovely design colors. Living room has a fireplace, spacious dining room offers a large balcony. Laundry room in unit & interior access to garage.

Carol Robbiano 531-7000 x292



AFFORDABLE \$389,000

Oakland. Just Listed! Two bedroom, one bath home with lots of potential. Bright & light, new hardwood floors, tiled fireplace, Sunny, level backyard for roses & veggies.

Don Dunning 531-7000 x239

INCOME FOR SALE

5 HOMES PLUS MOTEL \$5,992,000

Commercial property in Northern CA along I-5. Currently used for five residential units. Excellent commercial properties. Excellent potential.

Frank Hennefer 531-7000 x235

NINE UNITS OAKLAND \$899,000

Fruitvale District. Store with eight apartments; four-two bedroom, one bath & four-one bedroom, one bath. Many tile & cabinet upgrades throughout. Income \$9100/mo. 9.8 GRM, 7% Cap rate.

Catherine Vallee 531-7006 x258

VICTORIAN FOUR PLEX \$825,000

Oakland. Three blocks from Jack London Square. Ideal setting for professional office or live-work. Several upgrades completed.

Frank Hennefer 531-7000 x235

REMODELED HOME \$579,000

San Lorenzo. Situated in a commercial zoned area of San Lorenzo off Highway 101. Formerly used as a hair salon. Excellent cash flow. Suitable for professional office, apartments, retail, auto according to zoning. Large level lot.

Frank Hennefer 531-7000 x235

ADORABLE DUPLEX \$499,000

Oakland. Lots of charm! Two-one bedroom, one bath apartments. The vacant unit has new carpet, lino., & paint. Unfinished basement perfect for a workshop. Shared yard with lemon trees & rose bushes.

Beth DeAtley 531-7000 x239

WALNUT CREEK (925) 938-8484

LAKE TAHOE RENTAL/SALES (800) 858-2463 www.tahoerental.com

Looking for a new home? Don't miss this week's Open Home Guide on page B11

on renting your property

When you rent your income are a couple of items are a few steps to take the rental process is clean the property is clean in good working order. That no broken steps, no ex- no leaks, no leaky pipes. If you get a handyman to come in and do the work. Give everything a good cleaning. If the paint is still clean and the carpet is a year old. Give hardwood floors a good buff and carpets a sham- the previous tenant did not. Make sure there is no trash or leftover from a previous tenant or cur- renters.

Change the locks. You don't want to be held liable if a previous tenant comes back in the night at his old address. Make sure the new tenant has a copy of the key and the new locks.

Get your paperwork in order. Have applications and rental agreements (and pens) handy. Advertise the property and hold an open house on a weekend after- noon. Listen to your heart and be- lieve in your business. Renting is a business. Be pre- pared to say no to potential renters. If you like them, if they are not on your list, bad credit, prior evictions, no job, bad credit, prior evictions. Do not discriminate; be- lieve in your business. Ask for references for all the adults who are moving there, not just the main tenant. Get the first month's rent in a cashier's check or money order.

Go through with the new tenant before they begin moving. You can both agree on the condition of the property. Dings and dents happen; it's part of life. You want to know what was there when a tenant moves out. Go over policies and procedures with the tenant - discuss pets, smoking, guests, use of common areas, entertaining and parking before they become an issue. Have your own list of house rules and have each tenant sign it.

Measure the job before you change buckets

ALAN J. HEAVENS

As a bathroom and kitchen remodeler, I don't just bring water, I bring a statement about the quality of the country. (Do you like the quality of the country? At the re- cent Kitchen and Bath Industry Show, Price Pfister introduced a new faucet that looks like an old-fash- ioned water pump.)

Prices abound in handle and spout profiles. But about function, too, when

you know: What style will work for your family, from traditional to elderly parents. Instead of twist knobs might be a better choice for the latter. Two-hand- le faucets (one handle typically used for cold) typically used for bathroom sinks. Sin- gle-handle faucets (handle position changes water temperature) once commonly found in kitchens, but now they're used in bath- rooms.

When to ask: "If I want to, can I have a two-handle faucet with a single-handle unit?" Sink open- ing and faucet dimensions are standardized now, so you usually don't have exceptions (old bathtubs are a note), so it's a good idea to check sizes first.

Any single- and two-handle faucet in bathroom sinks are on the centers (the distance be- tween the centers of the hot and cold mounting bolts). Two-hand- le faucets with spreads of eight to 16 inches are available in a variety of flexible hookups.

When changes depend on the size of holes in the sink. Most single-handle faucets mount through a four-hole, while one-hand- le faucets can be mounted through one hole or up to four. (If you have a switch, you have unused space you can fill them with caps.) The industry standard for the distance between hot- and cold- water connections for both single- and two-handle kitchen faucets is eight inches. Measure the distance between the connections and faucet before purchas- ing one.

What will it cost? You can buy a faucet for \$30, or you can buy one for \$600, but price dictates quality. Though manufacturers ac- knowledge that the upper end of

Make sure you have emergency information on how to contact the tenant and next-of-kin. If the tenant is on vacation or ill, you may need to contact a family member immediately.

Introduce your tenant to other residents or the neighbors. Be on friendly terms with your neighbors and ask that they notify you if anything is amiss at the rental unit.

A good relationship with your tenant will make the whole process easier, so try to have a positive attitude. You and the renter depend upon each other — aim for a positive relationship and handle any

questions, repairs or disputes swiftly, efficiently and fairly.

Carol Martino is a Realtor and owner of Realty World Martino Associates & Mortgage Company. She is a member of the Rental Housing Association of Northern Alameda County. She can be reached at 510-919-9233 or on her Web site, www.carolmartino.com.



CAROL MARTINO
Income Property Insider

Move

FROM PAGE B13

moving expenses. Consult your tax adviser.

Don't wait to call: Although it is possible to line up a mover as late as two weeks before you move, it is wise to start the selection process a month or two in advance. During busy spring and summer months, the peak season in the moving industry, it can take a few weeks just to get an appointment with a moving company representative.

Paying up: Ask the moving company how it wants you to pay upon delivery of your goods (usually it's cash, credit card or cashier's check). If they want cash, be sure to get a receipt. The mover also will ask you to sign off on the inventory delivered (you may want to designate someone to check in boxes and furniture as they arrive). This is also the time to note any damage, which you'll need to contact the moving company about later in order to file a claim.

'Build It Green' tour and fair

■ Sunday's events feature homes built green

TRUITT & WHITE

Build It Green is hosting its second green home tour of Alameda and Contra Costa counties and a Green Building Fair. New construction, re-models, single- and multi-family housing are included in the tour.

Participants will be able to talk to homeowners and builders, and check out green features such as radiant floor heating systems; and concrete flooring; solar electric and hot water systems; reclaimed and sustainably harvested wood; recycled wood decking and other environmentally friendly products.

The tour and fair will be held this Sunday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and the fair at Truitt & White, 842 Hearst Ave. in Berkeley from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Attendees must purchase a tour book for \$15 to take the tour. The book is available at retail locations throughout the Bay Area or at the fair on the day of the tour.

Books can also be purchased by visiting BuildItGreen.Org or by calling 510-845-0472.

PACIFIC UNION

GMAC Real Estate

OPEN SUNDAY JUNE 4, 2-4PM



FIXER UPPER

Livable-barely, but if you like to paint and fix, this adorable cottage will definitely excite you. Big kitchen, deck, yard & a great central Alameda location.

2006 Buena Vista, Alameda
Offered at \$349,000

Fritz Hochfellner
510.338.1348
www.fritzsells.com



SUN FILLED MONTCLAIR CONTEMPORARY

OPEN SUNDAY, JUNE 4, 2-4:30PM



7205 Wild Currant Way, Oakland

Zen Inspired Contemporary. Providing intimacy and seclusion, this 4 bedroom, 3 bath home was extensively remodeled in 2000. Maple floors and cabinetry with an emphasis on light and openness. The Master retreat has spa-like qualities with whirlpool tub and double walk-in shower.

Offered at \$949,000

CHUCK CORWIN
(510) 338-1353



OPEN SUNDAY, JUNE 4, 2-4:30PM

ALBANY HILL

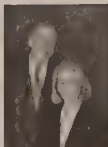


787 Taft Avenue, #B Albany

Dramatic 2 bedroom, 2.5 bath townhouse. Granite kitchen. Hill view. Near BART, Solano Avenue and Pacific East Asian Market.

Offered at \$569,000

Bob & Carolyn Nelson
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WELLS BENNETT REALTORS

1001 BROADWAY, OAKLAND
(510) 541-7000
www.wellsbennett.com

Open Sunday June 4th, 2:00pm-4:30pm
New Listing ~ 5639 Cabot Drive



An amazing find just steps from Montclair Village on a quiet street, this home has it all. A lovely traditional with three bedrooms, two & a half baths, hardwood floors, light-filled living room with slate fireplace, new bathrooms, updated kitchen with all new stainless steel appliances. An extra bonus is an amazing outdoor space including a large level back yard, sunny patio & spacious side deck.

This is a gem!

Tracy Butler
(510) 485-7232



Tracy@ButlerHomeSales.com

Professionalism and progress since 1924 - A family tradition.

PACIFIC UNION

GMAC Real Estate

3281 Beechwood, Lafayette ~ Open Sunday, June 4th 1-4pm



Urban sophistication in the country. Dramatic and stunning, with secluded vistas, conveniently located next to the Lafayette bike trail and easy freeway access. Updated beautifully with custom-designed Italian kitchen and bathrooms, hardwood floors and walls of glass with secluded garden. Formal living room, dining area, kitchen/family room, 3 bedrooms and 2 baths.

Offered at \$1,050,000

Nancy Rothman

925.253.6209

www.NancyRothman.com

www.pacificunion.com

PACIFIC UNION

GMAC Real Estate

OPEN SUNDAY JUNE 4, 2-4:30PM

Rare in Montclair, this near-level lot is the site of a charming one-story cottage-style home. Gardens front and back, an intimate side deck, patio for entertaining, a glorious redwood tree, and back-

yard playhouse enhance the livability of this lovely property. 3+ Bedrooms; 1.5 Baths; 2 Car Garage.



6222 Merriewood Drive, Oakland
Offered at \$799,000

Joan E. Hause

510.338.1358

Associate Broker

www.pacificunion.com

PACIFIC UNION

GMAC Real Estate

624 Huntleigh Drive, Lafayette ~ Open Sunday, June 4th 1-4pm



JUST LISTED! This house has it all. Remodeled with designer features. Exquisite finishes and a great floor plan. Level-in with hardwood floors throughout, spacious living room with vaulted ceiling, dining area and a fabulous remodeled kitchen. 4 bedrooms, 2 remodeled baths. Located on a wonderful street.

Offered at \$1,225,000

Nancy Rothman

925.253.6209

www.NancyRothman.com

www.pacificunion.com



Heavens

FROM PAGE B15

the market sets trends in design and finishes, they say the typical American household buys somewhere in the \$90-to-\$250 range, with chrome the most popular finish.

Looks matter: You'll definitely pay more for high style. Moen has just introduced a pewter finish, and Price Pfister has unveiled distressed "rustic bronze" and "rustic pewter" finishes designed to appear weathered with age. Another new trend

is toward the "architecturally inspired" faucet, something that might have been in a Roman bath or a 19th-century farmyard.

Word to the wise: Some finishes aren't easy to maintain. If you have neither the time nor the inclination to preserve a sheen or patina, consider a dull finish over one you have to spend time polishing.

Stick your neck out: If you're remodeling your kitchen, one of the smartest moves you can make is to combine a tall gooseneck faucet with a deeper sink, so you can easily fill large pots with water, then

have maneuverability to scrub them later. Gooseneck faucets are a good idea for the bathroom too, especially if you have a coffeemaker in your master suite.

Good advice: Keep a copy of the installation instructions and parts list, as well as the warranty information for your new faucet. The more it cost, the more likely that a \$3 to \$15 part will fix a future problem.

Want Alan J. Heavens' advice on a project or purchase? E-mail ahavens@phillynews.com or write to him at *The Inquirer*, Box 8263, Philadelphia PA 19101.

PACIFIC UNION

GMAC Real Estate

COMING SOON



This noble English house was designed by beloved architects Newsome and Newsome in 1930. Owned by the same family for the last 40 years, this warm, beautifully-detailed, light-filled house has six bedrooms, each with its own bath, and a 28,000-plus square foot lot. On the market in mid-June.

Offered at \$4,100,000

Kathleen Callahan
510.338.1343

KCallahan@pacunion.com
www.KathleenCallahan.com

PACIFIC UNION

GMAC Real Estate

LANDMARK ESTATE



Situated in Happy Valley on 1.43± acres with magnificent gardens, built in 1949. Old world craftsmanship with extensive wood treatments and attention to detail. 4BR, 2 family rooms, study-media room, kitchen and bathrooms updated. Pool and pool house with generous lawn area. 2 garages, one with room above for au-pair or home office. Additional building with 3 rooms, ideal for potting room, work shop and play room. Property extends across Happy Valley Road with additional parking for those large parties. Call or email for a private showing.

www.marksolomon.com for Virtual Tour

4100 Happy Valley Road,
Lafayette

Offered at \$5,795,000

Mark Solomon
925.253.6212

msolomon@pacunion.com
www.marksolomon.com

PACIFIC UNION

GMAC Real Estate

OPEN SAT., & SUN., JUNE 3-4, 2-4:30 PM

135 Arbor Drive, Piedmont



The French countryside is experienced in this uniquely charming and spacious home. Hardwood floors, interior details and a lovely backyard continue the French country theme. The quaint kitchen has been updated with Italian tile counters and stainless steel appliances. This special home is located close to shops and restaurants and in the highly rated Piedmont School District.

* 4 + BR, 3 BA, including a master suite with sitting room * Formal dining room * Den
* Bonus rooms * Detached garage * Flagstone patio with pergola & pretty gardens
PHOTOS@PACUNION.COM

Donna Costella
510.338.1355

Offered at \$1,395,000
dcostella@pacunion.com

PACIFIC UNION

GMAC Real Estate

MAXIMUM PRIVACY/PANORAMIC BAY VIEWS

OPEN SUNDAY JUNE 4, 2-4:30
TWILIGHT TOUR WED. JUNE 7, 6-8:30PM



4845 Geranium Place, Oakland
Offered at \$829,500

Nestled in the trees, high above the rooftops, this lovely home beckons a special person to come enjoy the views, privacy and spacious all level living in the Oakland Hills. This home can facilitate formal entertaining or quiet evenings watching the sunset. The micro-climate of this area lends itself to warmth and sun. Up a private driveway, a home away from the hustle and bustle. If this sounds too good to be true, come on up for a visit and see if this oasis fits your lifestyle!

Diane E. McCan
510.338.1352

REDWOOD HEIGHTS &
LAUREL DISTRICT SPECIALIST
www.pacunion.com

Don't miss the Open Home Guide starting on B22

PACIFIC UNION

GMAC Real Estate

OPEN SAT. & SUN. JUNE 3-4, 2-4:30 PM



Drive up the private driveway and prepare to be amazed! This beautiful contemporary home with a bright, open floor plan has one of the truly great 3-bridge views of the Oakland Hills! Features include 4 Bd., Office, FR, 3 BA, 2 Fireplaces and a 3-Car Attached Garage. Lots More Parking.



Vicki Woodhead
510.338.1334

6720 Elverton Drive, Oakland
Offered at \$1,599,000

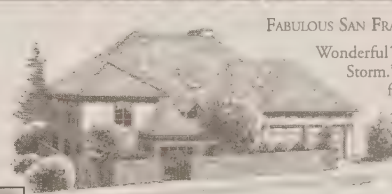


Keith Woodhead
510.338.1334

PACIFIC UNION

GMAC Real Estate

OPEN SUNDAY, JUNE 4, 2-4:30 PM



FABULOUS SAN FRANCISCO BAY AND MARIN VIEWS

Wonderful Traditional rebuilt after the 1906 Earthquake. Great construction, detail and workmanship. The home has been put into the original style with a new kitchen, home theater, and a large master bedroom with a fireplace. The home is surrounded by a beautiful garden and a large pool. The home is located in a quiet neighborhood and is a great investment opportunity.



Francis Heath
510.338.1357

Upper Rockridge

5935 Manchester Avenue
Offered at \$2,500,000

www.pacunion.com

PACIFIC UNION

GMAC Real Estate

OPEN SUNDAY, JUNE 4TH 1-5 PM

Urban Retreat in the Heart of Jack London Square

Stylish, Convenient, Affordable Studio in Heart of Jack London Square's historic Warehouse District. Garage parking, pool, gym, club house, game room, media room, business center, concierge 24/7. Yoshi's, Kimball's, the Farmer's Market! Minutes to Oakland International Airport. Convenient Freeway access, Get to San Francisco by bus or Ferry.



Pat Brennan
510-501-1596

311 Oak Street #816
Oakland

Offered at \$357,000

www.PatBrennan.com
www.pacunion.com

ELEGANT PIEDMONT MEDITERRANEAN

21 Richardson Way, Piedmont
Offered at \$2,200,000

Classic home with exceptional architectural details

- ♦ 4 bedrooms, 2½ baths
- ♦ Modern kitchen
- ♦ Bay-view master suite
- ♦ Sunny backyard, level-out from kitchen and lovely breakfast room



DEBI FITZGERRELL, ASSOCIATE BROKER
510-338-1306 ♦ www.dfitzgerrell.com

PACIFIC UNION

GMAC Real Estate

OPEN SUNDAY, JUNE 4, 2-4:30 PM

This spacious one bedroom second floor condominium features fine 1930's details, 1990's upgrades, and an ideal Northside location near UC and upper Shattuck Avenue. Enjoy the terrific eat in kitchen, large skylighted bathroom, formal dining room, and very large living room with fireplace and study alcove or room for a second bedroom.



Gini Erck
510.338.1339

2275 Cedar Street, Berkeley
Offered at \$485,000

gerck@pacunion.com
www.pacunion.com

PACIFIC UNION

GMAC Real Estate

NEW LISTING IN THE OAKLAND HILLS OPEN SUNDAY, JUNE 4, 2-4:30PM



4615 Rockingham Court, Oakland
Offered at \$4,325,000



Gini Erck
510.338.1339

Designed by Phillip Perkins and built by Edward Lee, this new home is a hallmark of modern art and workmanship. The private, gated estate at the end of a quiet cul-de-sac opens to spectacular 4 bridge views. The home gracefully wraps around a beautifully landscaped courtyard. The club level hosts a game room, sumptuous theater and wine cellar. 6 bedrooms, 6+ bathrooms, including a luxurious master suite.

QUINTESSENTIAL CRAFTSMAN IN ROCKRIDGE BY APPOINTMENT ONLY



5836 Lawton Avenue, Oakland
Offered at \$1,150,000



Christian Downer
510.338.1340

Quintessential Craftsman with built-ins in living room, dining room and study. Kitchen/family room with French doors to deck, lawn. 3 bedrooms & 2 designer-perfect bathrooms! Blocks to College Avenue eateries!

NEW PIEDMONT AVENUE LISTING OPEN SUNDAY, JUNE 4, 2-5PM



4127 Gilbert Street, Oakland
Offered at \$820,000

A wonderful combination of period architecture and intelligent renovation, this 1908 shingle offers three bedrooms, two bathrooms, a bright eat-in kitchen, a family room open to the leafy back yard, and a solar hot water/heating system - all on a warm and friendly street just three short blocks from the pleasures and conveniences of lively Piedmont Avenue.

NEW LISTING IN GLENVIEW OPEN SUNDAY, JUNE 4, 2-5PM



3935 & 3937 Park Boulevard, Oakland
Offered at \$769,000

This stylish 1921 duplex features two charming units with generous living spaces and hardwood floors throughout! The main level 1BR, 1BA unit boasts a bright, spacious living room with wood burning fireplace, built-ins, an updated kitchen & bath and ample storage. The upper level 2BR, 1BA unit includes a sunny living room & office nook, large eat-in kitchen with adjacent pantry and a wonderful plus room with lovely views of Mt. Tam, city lights and the bay!

OPEN SUNDAY 2:00-4:30

- | | | | | |
|---|---|--|--|---|
| ROCKRIDGE \$2,500,000
MANCHESTER AVE.
4BR/4+BA Traditional w/ fabulous Master bedroom w/ fireplace, billiard room, 50s style soda fountain, separate beautiful gardens. Francis Heath x1357 | MONTCLAIR \$1,599,000
6720 ELVERTON DR. (Open Sat & Sun 2-5)
TRULY GREAT 3-BRIDGE VIEW!! 4BR and Office, family room, great kitchen, 3BA, 2 fireplaces, custom built-ins and a 3-car attached garage. Keith Tollas x1382 & Vicki Woodhead x1334 | ROCKRIDGE \$879,000
6019 HILLEGASS AVE.
Craftsman style 3BR/2BA 1920's home with full in-law Great separation of space. Large living room with fireplace, formal dining room, eat-in kitchen with nook. Rich Gould x1347 & Joanna Gould x1346 | OAKLAND \$749,900
866 PROSPECT AVE.
Stylish and large 3 bedroom, 1.5 bath home. Lovely hardwood floors, peak of the bay, good size backyard. Kathy Flynn x1317 | NORTH OAKLAND \$499,000
583 59TH ST.
Two bedroom condo with high-end finishes. Granite kitchen with stainless appliances. Great floorplan for entertaining guests. Tom Nemeth x1381 |
| PIEDMONT HILLS \$2,495,000
WOLF RD. (Open 2-5)
Class Bay Views from almost every room. AND NEW modern art style contemporary including dining areas, state-of-the-art kitchen. 4000 sq. ft. Fritz Hochfeller x1348 | PIEDMONT \$1,395,000
135 ARBOR DR. (Open Sat & Sun)
Charming & spacious home. 3+BR, 3BA, including a master suite with sitting room, formal dining room, den & bonus rooms. Hardwood floors. Detached garage. Donna Costella x1355 | REDWOOD HEIGHTS \$829,500
4845 GERANIUM PL. (Open 2-5)
Enjoy the views, privacy and spacious all level living in the Oakland Hills. Up a private driveway, this home can facilitate formal entertaining or peaceful evenings. Dwight McCan x1391 | MILLS COLLEGE \$749,000
5321 MACARTHUR BLVD.
New listing! 4BR/3BA 1926 "country farmhouse" set on .25+ acres. Rolling lawn, "secret" gardens, front porch with rocker, wooded & hill outlooks. Eat-in kitchen. Jeffrey Himmel x1307 | LAUREL \$499,000
3634 CALIFORNIA ST.
Charming home with cozy floor plan, good light & privacy. Hardwood floors in living room, two bedrooms & hallway. Eat-in kitchen. Landscaping in front & rear yards. Diane Earl McCan x1352 |
| PIEDMONT \$2,200,000
WILKINSON WY. (Open Sat & Sun)
Home with exceptional architectural details. 4BR, 2.5BA. Modern kitchen. Bay-view terrace. Backyard, level-out from kitchen & 1/2 mile drive. Debi Fitzgerald x1306 | PIEDMONT \$1,395,000
15 LITTLEWOOD DR.
Gorgeous contemporary, built around a pool & patio, in the heart of Piedmont. 4BR, 2.5BA, huge family room on one level. 2 bonus rooms downstairs, workshop, interior garage access. Bonnie Hirsch x1337 | MARINA BAY \$799,000
97 SOUTHWIND CIR.
Waterfront home in the Marina Bay area. SF, Bay Bridge, East Bay hill views next to open space. 4BR, 2.5BA, 2-car garage. Community pool & spa. Wendy Gardner x1303 | UPPER FRUITVALE \$629,000
3868 FRUITVALE AVE. (open 2-5)
Stylish traditional with split-level floor plan, 2BR & 1 updated BA. Living room, dining room with built-in hutch. Hardwood floors. Eat-in kitchen. Rear patio. Landscaped, terraced yard. Christine Downer x1348 | UPPER LAUREL \$579,000
3948 PATTERSON AVE. (Open 2-5)
2BR/1BA bungalow located on the border of Redwood Heights & the Laurel District. Lower unit with full bath, great for home office or guest quarters. Large deck for entertaining. Joanna Hirsch x1366 |
| ROCKRIDGE \$2,200,000
MACACIA AVE.
Mediterranean-style home with gourmet kitchen, large family room. Master suite with views. Enormous lot. Bob & Carolyn Nelson x1345 | ADAMS POINT \$995,000
361 WARWICK AVE.
Beautifully restored grand craftsman home. Gracious foyer, parlor, living room with fireplace & formal dining room. New chef's kitchen. 5BR, 3 new full baths. Donna DeBardi x1374 | MONTCLAIR \$799,000
6222 MERRIEWOOD DR.
Charming cottage style home on rare, near-level lot. 3+ bedrooms, 1.5 baths, 2-car garage. Great ambience! Patio, side deck, gardens & playhouse. Joan Hause x1358 | ALBANY \$569,000
787 TAFT AVE. #B
Dramatic 2 bedroom, 2.5 bath townhouse. Granite kitchen. Hill view. Near BART, Solano Avenue and Pacific East Asian Market. Bob & Carolyn Nelson x1345 | BERKELEY \$485,000
2275 CEDAR ST.
New Listing! Spacious 1BR condo in ideal North-side location. Fine 1930's details, bright 1996 kitchen & bath, formal dining, living room with fireplace & study alcove or room for 2nd BR. Gini Erck x1339 |
| ROCKRIDGE \$1,725,000
COCHRANE
Contemporary on prime street. Uplifting interior with high ceilings and generous spaces. 4BR, 2.5BA, family room with fireplace, large deck, landscaped area. Kathleen Callahan x1343 | OAKLAND \$995,000
431-433 SUNNYSLOPE AVE.
Georgian Craftsman, Duplex with identical units. 2+ bedrooms, 1 bath each. Original details, ample parking, huge garden. Erika Celestre x1370 | REDWOOD HEIGHTS \$799,000
3664 MONTEREY BLVD.
Prairie Style Traditional 2-story home! 3BR/1.5BA, den, spacious living/dining room. Filtered Bay views. Backyard with rose garden, flagstone patio & outdoor fireplace. 2-car garage. Teri Carlisle x1305 | ROCKRIDGE \$475,000-\$485,000
320 51ST ST. A, B, C, D
Remodeled 1BR condos, each with its own laundry & garage. New kitchens, baths, hardwood floors. Full of light and sunshine. Vibrant College Avenue just around the corner. Leslie Easterday x1363 | BERKELEY \$469,000
1239 OXFORD ST.
Gourmet Ghetto. 1BR/1BA detached cottage condo in a garden oasis yet minutes to Shattuck temptations. Formal dining, fireplace in living room. No HOA dues. Joanna Gould x1346 |
| ROCKRIDGE \$1,690,000
LAWTON AVE.
Luxury a block from College Ave! 4BR, 2.5BA, cook's kitchen, family/media room, garden office/studio, garage. www.pacunion.com. Ashley O'Neill x1368 | MONTCLAIR \$949,000
7205 WILD CURRENT WY.
Zen inspired contemporary. Providing intimacy & seclusion, this 4BR, 3BA home was extensively remodeled in 2000. Maple floors & cabinetry with an emphasis on light & openness. Chuck Corwin x1353 | CROCKER HIGHLANDS \$789,000
1421 BARROWS RD.
Traditional 3BR/1BA home with separate living & dining rooms. Sensibly arranged kitchen with eat-in breakfast area. Conveniently located. Jackie Care x1378 | SAN LEANDRO \$534,000
380 FARRELLY DR. (Open 1-4)
First open! Charming 2BR, 1BA bungalow in Farrelly Pond neighborhood. Refinished hardwood floors, fresh interior & exterior paint, remodeled bath. Large yard. Candy Benny x1328 | ALAMEDA \$349,000
2006 BUENA VISTA AVE. (open 2-4)
Fixer upper! Livable - barely! But if you like to paint and fix, this adorable cottage will definitely excite you. Big kitchen, deck, yard. Great central location. Fritz Hochfeller x1348 |

BY APPOINTMENT

- | | |
|---|--|
| BERKELEY \$975,000
New Listing! 3 blocks from Ashby BART. Well-maintained 7 unit building. Low maintenance and off-street parking. Gross rent multiplier is 11.3. Wendy Gardner x1303 | JOAQUIN MILLER \$948,000
5+BR/3+BA. Vaulted ceiling, 2 fireplaces, skylights, formal dining room, family room. Fenced level yard. Large eat-in kitchen, 2-car garage. Jeffrey Himmel x1307 |
|---|--|

COMING SOON

- | |
|--|
| PIEDMONT \$4,100,000
Noble English house designed by Noscome and Newcome in 1930. Owned by the same family for the last 40 years. 6BR, each with its own BA. 28,000+ sq. ft. lot. On market in mid-June. Kathleen Callahan x1343 |
|--|



Hills Newspapers: Your number one source for up-to-date East Bay real estate information

OPEN SUNDAY

2:00 - 4:30 PM

COLDWELL
BANKER

RESIDENTIAL BROKERAGE

1871 GRAND VIEW DRIVE

Sophisticated Hiller Highlands townhome, fabulous SF Bay Bridge view, 2 bedrooms plus large loft/study room. Rich walnut finishes & cabinetry, slate & berber, marble master bath, many custom details.

www.1871GrandView.com

OFFERED AT
\$799,000

VICKY FAULK

REALTOR® Associate
510-339-4770
vicky.faulk@cbnrcal.com
camoves.com/vicky.faulk

OPEN SAT & SUN

SAT 1 - 4 PM & SUN 12 - 5 PM

COLDWELL
BANKER

RESIDENTIAL BROKERAGE

2532 & 2534 TENTH AVE

The Grand Dame of 10th Ave. Gorgeous home + income. Beautiful architectural details. High rounded ceilings, pocket doors, & built-ins. Lovely garden with 500 sq.ft. detached office/gym. Beautiful full decks off the back 2 units with views of Oakland & Bay. Close to China Town & Lake Merritt.

OFFERED AT
\$759,000

ALICIA DRAKE

REALTOR®
Office: 510-339-4770
Cell: 415-439-1111
Alicia@AliciaDrake.com

JUST LISTED

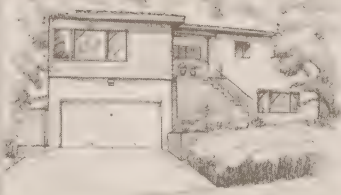
OPEN SAT & SUN 2:00 - 4:30 PM

COLDWELL
BANKER

RESIDENTIAL BROKERAGE

11 HILL ROAD

Three bedroom, 3 bath one-owner house, spacious living and family rooms, fresh interior paint and hardwood floors located at entrance to Tilden Park. Some views and mature trees surround this pleasant mid-century home.

OFFERED AT
\$770,000

BARBARA HARDACRE

REALTOR®
510-339-4750

barbara.hardacre@camoves.com

JUST LISTED

OPEN SUNDAY 2:00 - 5:00 PM

COLDWELL
BANKER

RESIDENTIAL BROKERAGE

2916 MORGAN AVENUE
SHANGRI-LA

Fabulous new home, garden paradise. Incredible style & construction. Three bedrooms & 3 bathrooms, detached studio/office & greenhouse. Family room with bridge deck to garden. Beautiful finished attic with maple flooring. Must see!

OFFERED AT
\$998,000

RACHEL BALLER

REALTOR®
510-339-4744

camoves.com/rballer-02-06

OPEN SUNDAY

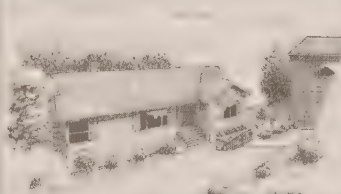
2:00 - 5:00 PM

COLDWELL
BANKER

RESIDENTIAL BROKERAGE

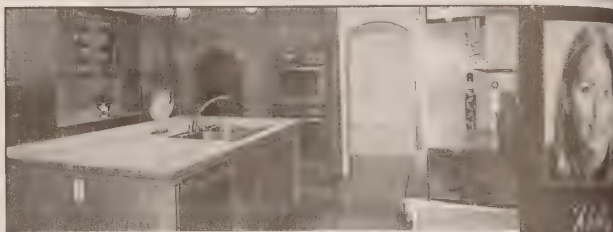
8367 GOLF LINKS ROAD

This recently updated, 2 bedroom, 1 bath home has so much to offer. Plenty of outdoor space, fenced in yard, sunny kitchen, & great designer colors make this an easy house to call home. Recent work includes new drainage system, fresh landscaping, refinished hardwood floors & updated kitchen & bath.

OFFERED AT
\$499,000

KARYN SELBY MILLER

REALTOR®
Office: 510-339-4799
Cell: 510-872-8982
camoves.com/karyn.miller



3209 Greenhills Drive

Stunning 4 bedroom Custom Home with Old World Charm. Large dramatic entry with travertine floors and wood beams. Oversized chef's kitchen with Viking range, indoor BBQ, Subzero, and other top of the line amenities. Mt. Diablo views from formal dining room and adjacent patio & large low maintenance yard. Wonderful neighborhood with top Lafayette Schools.



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80 Gravatt Road, Claremont Hills
Pending - Offered at \$2,295,000

96 Meridan Road Upper Meridian
Shown By Appointment - Offered at \$1,995,000

1680 Grand View Drive, Oakland/Berkeley
By Appointment - New Price! \$1,500,000

74 Castle Park Way, Piedmont
Open Sunday 2-4:30 - Offered at \$1,995,000

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GRUBBCO.COM

DEBRA J. DRYDEN, CRS
BROKER/ASSOCIATE
Office: 510.339.4400
dryden@grubbcocom

OPEN SUNDAY

Open Sunday, June 4th, 2-5pm

5119 Desmond Street, Oakland
Offered at \$729,000

A classic Rockridge Craftsman, rich in original detail. This lovely home has two bedrooms and one bath, formal dining, laundry room, oversized attached garage with plenty of storage space and off-street parking. The spacious and charming backyard has additional space that can be used for more storage, a tool shed or a potting shed. Very well maintained

Gina Chrys, Realtor
Prudential California Realty
342 Highland Ave, Piedmont
Direct: (510) 835-6089
Office: (510) 428-0900

Prudential
California Realty

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Lara Blake, Loan Consultant
510.339.2121 Ext. 213
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HOLMGREN
ASSOCIATES

House hunting this weekend? Turn to Hills Newspapers Real Estate & Home section first.

Piedmont - Open Sunday 2-4:30



183 Indian Road

Newsom & Newsom Tudor with spacious family room off the kitchen level-out garden for summer. Exquisite living room. Five bedrooms and one half baths. Offered at \$3,300,000

GRUBB Co.
www.grubbco.com

ANIAN PETTIT TUNNEY
Office: 510.339.0400/217
tunney@grubbco.com



160 Estates Drive

A stately Tudor in upper Piedmont with lovely hardwood floors, big windows and four large bedrooms up. Library and fifth bedroom on the main floor. Large secluded gardens with pond. Offered at \$1,950,000

JUST LISTED

OPEN SAT & SUN 1:30-4:30 PM



1231 GRIZZLY PEAK BLVD.

Dramatic European design with views of San Francisco Bay. Chef's kitchen. Imported mahogany windows/doors. Italian stone in kitchen and baths. Maple floors. Approx. 4100 sq. ft. w/ 4 bedroom suites (master and 3 junior) with balconies overlooking Berkeley and the Bay. More top quality details. www.1231GrizzlyPeak.com

OFFERED AT
\$2,850,000



BARB ALLENDORF
Previews Property Specialist
Coldwell Banker Berkeley
510.684.9440

COMING SOON



MONTCLAIR

Stunning 3+ bedroom, 5 bath. Patio & fabulous yard off kitchen/family room, SF Bay office over the garage, plus room for guests, great setting.



DIAN HYMER, CRS
Associate Broker
Previews Property Specialist
#1 Agent in the Oakland/Piedmont office
510-339-4777
Photo Tours At: dianhymer.com

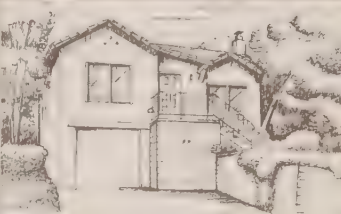
OPEN SUN 1-4:30



MAXWELL PARK MEDITERRANEAN

Two bedroom, 2 bath with new dual pane windows and beautiful French doors leading to the expansive backyard. Charming living spaces and room to grow! Bring your vision to the yard and don't miss the city views from the front porch. Offers as written.

Offered at \$545,000



LAURA ARECHIGA
Realtor
Coldwell Banker Berkeley
510.981.3010

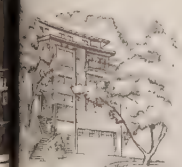
COLDWELL BANKER



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OPEN HOMES

HILLS \$2,977,000
SUN 2-4
Play Unique Craftsman. LR w/ tile, splendid grounds, 100 views
JAN MARENTHAL 510.486.1495



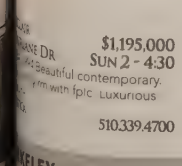
GRIZZLY PEAK \$2,850,000
SUN 1:30-4:30
Dramatic European design. Chef's kitchen. Sophisticated garden.
510.486.1495



HILLS \$1,425,000
SUN 1:30-5
Contemporary style kitchen-cherry, great kitchen-cherry, great kitchen-cherry.
510.339.4700



GRIZZLY PEAK \$1,295,000
SAT/SUN 2-5
Newly built; open plan, soaring gourmet kitchen, hwdwd, Bay view.
510.339.4700



GRIZZLY PEAK \$1,195,000
SUN 2-4:30
Newly built; open plan, soaring gourmet kitchen, hwdwd, Bay view.
510.339.4700

OPEN HOMES



LINCOLN HEIGHTS \$998,000
SUN 2-5
3 BR 3 BA Amazing high-end custom jewell Views. Great style property. Fam rm, detached studio, garden.
RACHEL BAKER 510.339.4700

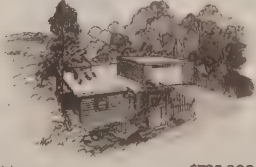
SEQUOYAH \$925,000
SUN 2-4:30
4386 SHORT HILL RD 2+BR 3 BA Custom built, den & family room, 2 frplcs, lg lot w/nice sense of privacy & lovely views.
DARCY DIAMANTINE 510.339.4700



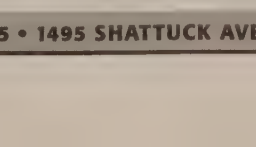
BERKELEY \$850,000
SUN 2-4:30
2405 HILLSIDE AVE. 4+BR 4+BA Home plus income! Charming duplex w/attached office/studio. Near U.C. and Shopping.
BARBARA LEVY 510.486.1495



HILLER HIGHLANDS \$799,000
SUN 2-4:30
1871 GRAND VIEW DR. 2+BR 2 BA Sophisticated townhome, fabulous Bay/Bridge view, elegant walnut trim, slate & marble.
VICKY FAULK 510.339.4700



MONTCLAIR \$795,000
SUN 2-4:30
2323 MASTLANDS DR. 3+BR 3.5 BA Nice San Francisco Bay Views. Gleaming hardwood floors, many tasteful updates.
DAVID ECKERT 510.339.4700



OPEN HOMES

SUMMIT RIDGE \$775,000
SUN 2-5
1928 PIPER RIDGE CT 3 BR 2.5 BA Settle into this lrg & sunny hm w/ high ceilings & skylts. Don't Miss Office + Sitting Rm
GEORGE KARSANT 510.339.47000

BERKELEY HILLS \$770,000
SAT/SUN 2-4:30
11 HILL ROAD 3 BR 3 BA Living, dining & family rooms. Private with some bay views. Entrance to Tilden.
BARBARA HARDACRE 510.339.4700

EL SOBRANTE \$769,000
SUN 1:30-4
895 BRIDGEWAY CIR 4 BR 3 BA Beautiful, vineyard and Calif. native plants, frplc. tile, w/w carpet, 2 decks w/views.
GREGG LUSTIG 510.486.1495

LAKE MERRITT \$759,000
SAT 1-4, SUN 12-5
2534 10TH AVE 4 BR 3 BA Duplex w/accessory building. Gorgeous decks w/lovely views, beautiful gardens. Vacant 6/12
ALICIA DRAKE 510.339.4700

GLENVIEW \$679,000
SUN 2-4:30
3514 WOODRUFF AVE 2+BR 2.5 BA Nicely updated. Kit w/ granite counters, custom cabinetry, hwdwd flr, convenient location.
DAVID ECKERT 510.339.4700

RICHMOND/HILLTOP \$599,999
SUN 1-4
3028 COLETTE DR 4 BR 3 BA Master suite w/ private balcony overlooking hills. Spacious sunroom! 2-car garage.
CJ BOYDSTON 510.339.4700

BERKELEY \$569,000
SUN 2-4
1638 GRANT ST. 2 BR 1 BA Cute home on beautiful lot in North Berk. Near trans. and Gourmet Ghetto. www.GDELLA.com
GENE DELLA MAGGIORA 510.486.1495



LAUREL \$549,000
SAT/SUN 2-4:30
2894 DELAWARE ST. 2+BR 1+BA 3 plus rooms, laundry, 2nd bath, HWF, att.garage, deck, level backyard. www.2894Delaware.com
JULIE JOYCE 510.339.4700



OPEN HOMES



MAXWELL PARK \$545,000
SUN 1-4:30
4546 VIRGINIA AVE 2 BR 1 BA Light filled Mediterranean, huge yrd, bonus bath & room, dual pane windows & french doors
LAURA ARECHIGA 510.486.1495

BERKELEY \$534,000
SAT/SUN 1-4
2283 CEDAR 2 BR 1 BA Bright, Elegant Top Floor Condo. HWD FLRS, LRw/FP, closets, storage, prking. Stunning!
GENE DELLA MAGGIORA 510.486.1495

OAKLAND \$499,950
SUN 2-4:30
3283 MARKET STREET 3 BR 1.5 BA This home has great space & charming features: lrg bdrms, quaint fam rm, & eat-in kitch
REVA TOLBERT 510.339.4700

OAKLAND \$499,000
SUN 2-5
8367 GOLF LINKS 2 BR 1 BA Serene, private, updated. Grt outdoor spaces, bright kit, beautiful setting, conv location
KARYN SELBY MILLER 510.339.4700

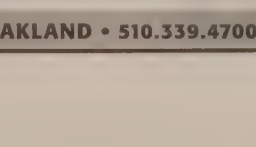


RICHMOND \$499,000
SUN 1-4
4383 NELSON DR. 3 BR 1 BA Renovated kitchen & bath! Vaulted ceilings. Attached garage. Landscaped hillside w/views!
RITA ZWERDLING 510.486.1495

ROCKRIDGE \$489,000
SUN 2-4:30
5214 BOYD AVE. 1+BR 1 BA Rare Rockridge Opportunity. c.1910 cottage "fixer" awaits your creativity. Close to BART.
PETER & ELLEN NICOLPOULOS 510.339.4700



LAUREL \$475,000
SUN 2-4:30
2968 MORGAN AVENUE 1+BR 1+BA Charming cottage in desirable Upper Laurel w/hwdwd flrs, extra room w/closet + sunny yard.
DARCY DIAMANTINE 510.339.4700



OPEN HOMES

RICHMOND \$423,000
SUN 1-4
686 5TH 2 BR 1 BA Stylish starter home awaits a new owner. Large yard, garage
ZANNA KNIGHT 510.486.1495

SAN PABLO \$235,000
SUN 2-4:30
13700 SAN PABLO AVE #2304 1 BR 1 BA Charming. Gated comm, prvt patio & extra storage, swmmg pool, ez access to commute options
REVA TOLBERT 510.339.4700

BERKELEY \$2,120,000
SUN 1-4
5 BR 4.5 BA Enchanting Mediterranean on large lot w/membership in adjacent private park. Rare find!
KIM & BARBARA MARENTHAL 510.486.1495

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SUN 1-4
3 BR 3 BA Spacious med., Bay view, private setting, remodeled kitch, 3 Frplc, + Rumpus Room!
GEORGE KARSANT 510.339.4700

MONTCLAIR \$799,000
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4 BR 2 BA Architectural Gem. Designed by student of Frank Lloyd Wright in 1950's
DAVID ECKERT 510.339.4700

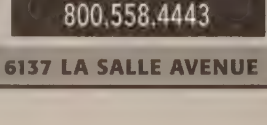
MONTCLAIR \$795,000
SUN 1-4
3 BR 3 BA Sharp. Serene views, light & open + large family room
JOAN DUFFIELD 510.339.4700

RICHMOND \$715,000
SUN 1-4
3 BR 2.5 BA Large home. Open floor plan w/gorgeous canyon views! More photos & info @ www.GDELLA.com
GENE DELLA MAGGIORA 510.486.1495

OAKLAND \$650,000
SUN 1-4
3 Charming Victorian units w/easy commute & private grdn. Great for lg family or investor.
LAURA ARECHIGA 510.486.1495

PINOLE \$625,000
SUN 1-4
3 BR 2 BA Sunny, open + spacious w/Bay View. Large semi-level side yard.
MICHELLE HOLM 510.486.1495

OAKLAND \$385,500
SUN 1-4
1 BR 1 BA Great location! Superb amenities! Kitchen w/maple cabs, tile counters, deck, gas FP.
BARB ALLENDORF 510.486.1495



800.558.4443

Why should you live with bathroom clutter and chaos any longer?

Maybe it's that pile of used bath towels on the floor. Or the shrine to shampoo that lurks behind your shower curtain. Somewhere in your home, it exists: that scary, clutter-filled bathroom. And, chances are, it's probably your master or your child's bathroom.

Today's bathrooms are in need of some serious de-cluttering. A few simple tips can get you there quickly and easily.

Master bath solutions

Believe it or not, the master bath is often the worst clutter culprit. Since it's hidden away from company's prying eyes, you're more likely to close the door than clean it up. Add to that the hectic pace of a two-person morning routine and even a spotless bathroom on Sunday night can turn to mayhem by Monday morning. Make a clean sweep. Start by removing every loose item from the room:

- Clear off all bottles and toiletries from the sink, and throw away anything that you purchased with good intentions, but don't use. Put items you use every day into a pile and place the rest under the sink or in a medicine cabinet. Set aside the most decorative pieces, such as perfumes, colognes and cosmetics.

- Remove all towels, robes and pajamas. Take an inventory of what you use and what you need to access easily.

- Remove any children's bath items and set them in a separate pile.

Next, bring in the clutter catchers:

- Organize your daily toiletries by usage. Do you brush your teeth first, then put on your makeup? From left to right, sort your items accordingly. Consider using a small basket to keep things neatly arranged. You'll find that once you've put things in order, they are much more likely to stay that way.

- Give every towel and robe its rightful place. You've inventoried the items — now compare this to the number of towel bars in your bath. It could be time to change your accessories or add some new and more functional items. Look to Inspirations by Moen for sophisticated new styles, such as the Retreat and Lounge collections. Both collections feature robe hooks and double towel bars that provide both quick access and multi-tasking capabilities. Double towel bars can maximize wall space, and an artfully arranged series of robe hooks can provide order to your towels or clothes.

- Bring in a decorative and covered basket for children's items. Although these items may be used every day, they can take away from the luxurious retreat feel of the master bath. Place them in a container that's more in line with your bathroom's style.

- Make decorative toiletries a part of the décor. A stylish glass shelf, such as the one found in Moen's new Retreat collection, can offer both function and beauty. A curved hourglass silhouette balances the shelf's geometric base — so your everyday items will look more ornamental.

CONCEAL THAT CLUTTER

If your household bears any resemblance to most — filled with kids, pets and clutter — you may be searching for innovative ways to hide the mess until you can tackle organization later. With responsibilities like work, carpools and the like filling most hours of your day, it can be hard to manage messes that accumulate in the recesses of your home. Here are three creative ways to make your home appear less cluttered.

Curtains: More than just decorative accents for your windows, curtains can be used to conceal clutter. Drape curtains between rooms without doors to create a distinct transition. A small curtain can cover the base of a pedestal sink in a bathroom and hide your toiletries, and similarly around a fish tank stand to conceal wires and pet products. You can also use curtains as wall hangings in lieu of artwork. This way, you can use the curtains to cover a wall that is unsightly or is in need of a paint job.

Screens: No longer used just to provide a private changing area, folding screens can effectively camouflage a messy office area housed in a living room, conceal piles and stacks of books or boxes in corners, or provide a secluded separation in a one-room loft. Purchase ready-made screens in decorative designs from home stores, or create your own screens out of folding doors or other items.

Suitcases and trunks: Decorative rattan trunks or antique leather suitcases can be a focal point in a room as well as a place to stash clutter. Use them to store magazines, children's toys or craft projects that you haven't completed (like needlepoint or knitting).

Today's bathrooms are in need of some serious de-cluttering. A few simple tips can get you there quickly and easily.

Children's bath solutions

All hope is not lost for the second-most-cluttered bathroom in the house. The secret is to make things fun and accessible for children. Again, do a clean sweep of the area, arranging items into categories, such as:

- Bath-time necessities and toys, daily necessities and towels and pajamas.

Now, look at the bathroom from your child's perspective. It's hard to reach the towel bar when you're only three feet tall. And it's tough for little hands to change the toilet paper roll, and toys are really the only reason to take a bath. Consider:

- Installing towel bars lower on the wall or using a robe hook mounted closer to the ground so that the child can reach their own towel.

- Using a plastic basket to store bath toiletries and toys in one place. Keep the basket under the sink so children can easily access it. The added bonus? This central location encourages children to put items away when they are finished.

- Install a toilet paper holder that pivots — such as those offered by Inspirations by Moen. Simply lift the arm, remove the empty roll, reload and lower the arm back into place. Just as Velcro helps a child learn to put on his or her shoes, these paper holders are easy to load. Better yet, they're decorative and make toilet paper changes easier on adults too. Most of Moen's bath accessory

collections offer this unique feature.

There's no question that a little organization goes a long way. With a little TLC, your master bath can become the beautiful decorator show-place you always wanted.

And, your child's bathroom can function as more of a work zone than disaster zone.

PLEASE RECYCLE.



ARA CONTENT

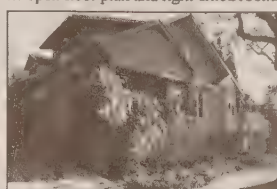
WHETHER IT'S an overrun with clutter, filled to the brim with squeaky bath toys, today's bathrooms are in need of some serious cluttering.

Lovely Home

Open Sunday 1-5pm

101 Lake Avenue, Piedmont

Its open floor plan and light-filled rooms include 4 bedrooms and 2 full baths. Updated features include cook's kitchen, full finished basement, custom entertainment center, Jacuzzi tubs in bathrooms, large attic, landscaping and irrigation, superior craftsmanship & private deck and garden. All new windows, doors, roof, foundations, plumbing, electrical, heating, and much more make this a house you can relax in and enjoy right now without the need for additional remodeling. Close to Piedmont Avenue, school, playgrounds, playing field, and tennis courts.



den. All new windows, doors, roof, foundations, plumbing, electrical, heating, and much more make this a house you can relax in and enjoy right now without the need for additional remodeling. Close to Piedmont Avenue, school, playgrounds, playing field, and tennis courts.

Offered at \$1,350,000

James Gardner, Broker • (510) 867-9220

open sunday

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. Charming three bedroom, two bath (c. 1914) bungalow in the heart of Berkeley. Beautifully remodeled kitchen and bathrooms. Dual pane windows, hardwood floors and ample storage. Conveniently located near the North Berkeley BART, Monterey Market and Fourth Street shops and restaurants. Offered at \$649,000



1801 Chestnut Street, Berkeley

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Office: 510.652.2133/460
jfickenscher@grubbco.com



open sunday

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. Appealing two-story home on a quiet and friendly residential street. Great natural light. Formal dining room. Fireplace in the living room. Three bedrooms, one and one half baths. Sunny garden and lawn. Double garage. Offered at \$995,000



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The GRUBB Co.
GRUBBCO.COM

CHRIS COHN
Office: 510.339.0400/253
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3768 Harrison St. #201 Oakland 94611

Offered at \$327,000

Spacious 1 bd/1 ba condo minutes from Piedmont Avenue's restaurants, shops and theater. 4 block stroll to Oakland's Rose Garden. Sunny corner unit with treetop view has been completely updated. Enjoy your own parking space plus a large storage unit. 1/2 block to casual carpool & SF bus.

OPEN Sat & Sun 1 - 5 pm

www.3768harrison.com

Linda Andersen
510.292.8704



- NEW appliances & fixtures
- NEW kitchen & bath tile floors
- NEW carpet & paint
- MANY other updates
- PRIVATE balcony
- SECURE parking space
- DESIRABLE 94611 area

MLS# 40168820



NEW LISTING! OPEN SAT & SUN 1-4



708 MINER ROAD, ORINDA

This spectacular estate has an idyllic secluded hillside setting. This 4 Bedroom, 3.5 bath home sits on approx 1.25 ac and has grand views. There are approx 3500 sq ft in this home. Light bright rooms, soaring ceilings, luxurious touches. Large Gourmet Kitchen, large luxurious Master retreat, huge Office/Guest Room.

Offered at \$1,695,000



Jerilyn Babington
510-547-1615
925-253-4601
510-421-9000

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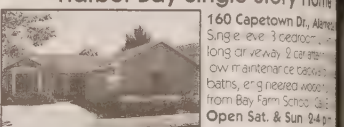
565 Bellevue Ave. #2106

Featuring spectacular panoramic views of Mt. Tam, hills, and Lake Merritt, this elegant corner unit has 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, separate master suite, updated kitchen, spacious living room and dining area, terrace pool, and facility. 24-hour doorman. Enjoy walking to Grand Ave. Lakeshore shops and restaurants. 1,243 square feet.

Offered at \$899,000

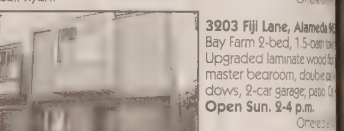
TOM ANTHONY
Anthony Associates
510-834-3333

Harbor Bay Single Story Home



160 Capetown Dr., Alameda
Single level 3 bedroom home with long driveway. 2 car garage. Own maintenance. Close to schools, shopping, and dining. Open Sat. & Sun. 2-4 p.m.

1321 Webster St., D314, Alameda. 2-bed, 2-bath, well-lit floor unit. Move-in condition! Upgraded laminate wood floors. Call Ryan.



3203 Fiji Lane, Alameda
Bay Farm 2-bed, 1.5-bath home. Upgraded laminate wood floors, master bedroom, double closets, 2-car garage, patio. Open Sun. 2-4 p.m.



PACIFIC COAST
Real Estate Corridor
Ryan Dunn 510.205.1781
Evelyn Courtland 510.915.9111

250 Stantonville Dr., Oakland

\$1,150,000.00



Spectacular Panoramic views, soaring 20-foot master retreat with fireplace and bay view. 4 bedrooms, sunken tub, separate stall shower, and walk-in closet. Also a Family room with a fireplace. Just one of the reasons to see this beautiful home.

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Valva

832 & 832A Camelia Street, Berkeley
Open Sunday 6/4/06 2:00-5:00



Gorgeous Turn-of-the-Century Victorian-style pair of flats retains its original charm, yet has been completely restored. Includes two bedrooms, upper unit and spacious & light one bedroom lower unit. Both vacant for owner or market rate rental. Located in desirable Westbrae neighborhood. Truly remarkable property listed at only \$725,000.

Call Michael Valva, Broker 510-451-7200

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Sunday

SUNDAY 2-4:30. Move right in to
beautifully updated home! Spacious
living and dining rooms, fabulous, new
kitchen and great rumpus room.
Bedrooms, two and one half baths.

Offered at \$1,249,000



506 Boulevard Way, Piedmont

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54 Chancellor Place

Claremont Hills
Listed at
\$1,295,000

Inspiring views of the Claremont Canyon and the Bay
Approx. 3,000 square feet of light-filled living space. SEE NEW LOOK!
3+ bedrooms and 3.5 baths
3-car garage with workshop plus large unfinished basement
On nearly 1/4 acre with yard for outdoor living in a serene setting

5 Ambler Place, Oakland

West End Commons
Listed at
\$485,000

Live + Work 2-Story Townhouse
A David Baker + Partners Project

- 1st Floor kitchen/living/work space w/high ceilings
- Large second floor bedroom with walk-in closet
- Additional flex loft space
- Well-appointed split bathroom
- Bosch washer/dryer
- Dedicated parking/EZ to BB/580/80/880

Yonkouski, Broker 510.597.0292 baproperties.com
Bay Area Properties on Claremont



Elegant Piedmont Mediterranean

This spectacular 1934 Mediterranean designed by Ray Keefe offers over 4400 sq. ft. of luxury living and has been updated to a level of sophistication and quality rarely matched. The chef's kitchen has been combined with the family room that flows onto a back terrace and level yard ideal for large gatherings. The master bedroom designed by Mark Becker has been recently finished with built-in flat screen, on demand gas fireplace and radiant heat bathroom floors. Elegant living and family rooms with Venetian plastered walls, additional study with fireplace and lower game room further complement this masterpiece.

Offered at \$2,950,000



811 Highland Avenue, Piedmont

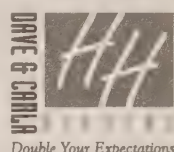
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Adorable cottage just minutes from Montclair Village. Bright and cheerful living room and dining area with gleaming hardwood floors. Warm and inviting family room with fireplace overlooking Mediterranean style backyard. Updated kitchen with granite, hardwood floors and sunny eat-in area. Spacious master suite. Garage plus off-street parking. Great commute location.

Offered at \$649,000



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Grand Lake
\$979,000

Open

3+BR/2+BA. For a virtual tour w/ fliprpn visit the website of this 20th century triplex with 21st century upgrades: new roof, electrical, furnace, dual panes & more. Income units: 1BR/1BA w/hdwd flrs & spacious studio w/sep kit. Call for showing appt.

515 Valle Vista
Open Sun 2-4:30

Tom Erwin
www.515ValleVista.com

Andrea Gordon



Alameda
\$669,500

Open

3BR/2BA. Yard w/patio & spa/hot tub. Professionally landscaped gardeners yard. Move-in condition. Spacious MBA & walk-in closet added to MBR in 2003. Recently refinished hdwd flrs. Dual pane windows. Fireplace & clinker brick chimney. Wired w/ Cat-5 Ethernet network.

1804 Ninth St.
Open Sat & Sun 2-4:30
Don Gehary

Andrea Gordon



Alameda
\$979,000

Open

Lovely Victorian w/a sophisticated modern twist. Light filled main level features an open floor plan. All four bedrooms conveniently located on upper level state of the art kit beautiful baths, & so much more to see!

1717 St. Charles St.
Open Sun 2-4:30
Andrea Gordon

(510) 339-8900



Berkeley
\$899,000

Wonderful tri-plex in great central Berkeley location. Nicely maintained building & grounds. Two additional unwarranted units. Fabulous investment opportunity or use for owner occupant.

Andrea Gordon



Oakland
\$799,000

Open

Large duplex & det gar. Up-4BR. Down-2+BR. Tenant occupied w/ great rental income or perfect for owner use. Enormous lot zoned R50 for amazing development potential. Great loc.

3535 Lincoln Ave.
Open Sun 2-4:30
Andrea Gordon

Pinole
\$619,900

Open

4BR/2BA. Price reduction! Light cosmetic fixer boasts cathedral ceilings in living room. Formal dining room w/ hdwd flrs. Family room leading to lush landscaped backyard. Located in a peaceful neighborhood in the hills with close proximity to regional parks.

2853 Wright Ave
Open Sun 2-4:00
Jody Dworzak



Oakland
\$535,000

Open

2BR/2BA. Coveted end unit at the luxurious Parkwood Condominiums. Beautiful patio for outside living. Gated cmnty w/loads of amenities. Incl a pool, spa, & gym. 180 Caldecott Lane #219
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Mary Burns

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Alameda

\$329,000	1333 Webster A313	1 BD/1 BA	Sun 2-4:30	Alameda Realty
\$345,000	105 Cypress St. West End	2 BD/1 BA	Sat 2-4	Harbor Bay Realty
\$349,000	2006 Buena Vista Ave.	2BD/1BA	Open Sun 2-5	Pacific Union Residential
\$369,000	1170-9th St. #14	1bd/1ba	Open Sun 2-5	Gold Coast Prudential Piedmont
\$375,000	215 Cypress Street	2BD/1BA	Sun 2-4	Alameda Realty
\$378,000	1814 2nd St. West End	3 BD/1 BA	Sat 2-4	Harbor Bay Realty
\$399,999	325 Kitty Hawk Unit 104	2 BD/1.5 BA	Sat & Sun 2-4:30	Golden West RE & Mortgage
\$435,000	2137 Otis Dr. #306	2 BD/2 BA	Sat & Sun 2-4:30	Bayside Real Est. Barbara Di Salva/Dianna Wyman
\$469,900	617-A Pacific Ave.	2 BD/1 BA	Sun 1-3:30	RVS Realty & Mortgage
\$475,000	1533 Pacific Ave.	1 BD/1 BA	Sat & Sun 2-4	Central Alameda
\$475,000	1594 Pacific Ave.	2 BD/1 BA	Sat/Sun 2-4 Central	Harbor Bay Realty
\$475,000	2027 Otis Dr. F	2 BD/2 BA	Sun 2-4	South Shore
\$514,000	3203 Fiji Lane	2 BD/1.5 BA	Sun 2-4	Bay Farm Island
\$520,000	534 Haight St.	2BD/1BA	Sun 2-4	Alameda Realty
\$539,000	1238 College Ave. East End	2 BD/1 BA	Sat 2-4	Harbor Bay Realty
\$555,000	3537 Norman Ln	2 BD/2 BA	Sun 2-4	Bay Farm Island
\$575,000	3421 Catalina Ave.	2 BD/2 BA	Sat 2-4	Bay Farm Island
\$579,500	1140 Verdemar Dr.	3 BD/2.5 BA	Sun 2-4	Harbor Bay Realty
\$593,000	1620 Paru Street	Duplex	Sat/Sun 2-4	Central Alameda
\$595,000	635 Centre Ct.	2 BD/2.5 BA	Sun 2-4:30	Harbor Bay Realty
\$599,000	1520 9th St.	2bd/1ba	Open Sun 1:30-4:30	Central Alameda
\$599,000	165 Bannister	2 BD/2 BA	Sat/Sun 2-4	Harbor Bay Realty
\$599,000	339 Broadway #218	2 BD/2 BA	Sun 2-4	Alameda Realty
\$599,000	4 Courageous Ct.	2 BD/2 BA	Sun 2-4	Kane & Associates
\$614,000	3153 Fiji Ln.	4 BD/2.5 BA	Sat/Sun 2-4	Bay Farm Island
\$629,000	1441 Sixth Street	2 BD/2 BA	Sat & Sun 2-4	Kane & Associates
\$629,500	3268 Cape Cod Court	3 BD/1.5 BA	Sat/Sun 2-4	Harbor Bay Realty
\$639,000	3247 Sterling Avenue	2+ BD/2 BA	Sun 2-4	Kane & Associates
\$649,000	618 Laguna Ln.	2 BD/2.5 BA	Sun 2-4	Harbor Bay Realty
\$649,500	3216 Ravens Cove Ln.	3 BD/1.5 BA	Sat & Sun 2-4	Ravens Cove Ln.
\$659,000	1566 Lincoln Ave. Units C/D	3 BD/2 BA	Sun 2-4	Central Alameda
\$668,000	1208 High Street	3 BD/1 BA	Sat/Sun 2-4	Central Alameda
\$669,000	3221 Encinal Ave.	Duplex	Sun 2-4:30	Blickley Real Estate
\$669,500	28 Invincible Ct.	2 BD/2 BA	Sat 2:30-5:30	Marina Village
\$678,000	1507 Encinal Ave.	3 BD/1 BA	Open Sat & Sun 1-4	Central Alameda

Alameda

\$679,000	200 Bannister Ct.	3 BD/2.5 BA	Sun 2-4	Realty World
\$690,000	2708 Washington St.	3 BD/2 BA	Sat & Sun 2-4	East End
\$695,000	437 Sheffield Road	2 BD/2 BA	Sat/Sun 2-4	SandPiper Cove
\$698,000	617 Baywood Rd	3 BD/2.5 BA	Sat/Sun 2-4	Harbor Bay Realty
\$698,000	752 Pacific Ave.	3 BD/2 BA	Sat/Sun 2-4	+Studio Cottage
\$729,000	105 Brunswick Rd	2 BD/1.5 BA	Sat/Sun 2-4	Harbor Bay Realty
\$739,000	160 Capetown Dr.	2 BD/1.5 BA	Sat & Sun 2-4	Harbor Bay Realty
\$749,000	111 Orr Rd	3 BD/2.5 BA	Sat/Sun 2-4	Harbor Bay Realty
\$749,000	3468 Catalina Ave.	3 BD/2.5 BA	Sun 2-4	Bay Farm Island
\$759,000	2828 Burgner Ave.	3 BD/2.5 BA	Sat/Sun 2-4	Bay Farm Island
\$769,000	3010 Thompson Ave.	2 BD/1.5 BA	Sun 2-4	East End
\$819,000	2 Rowe Ct.	4 BD/2.5 BA	Sun 2-4	West End
\$830,000	3 Washoe Ct.	4 BD/2.5 BA	Sat & Sun 2-4	Marina Cove
\$839,000	605 Glenwood Isle	3 BD/2 BA	Sat/Sun 2-4	South Shore
\$848,000	1323 Versailles	DUPLEX	Sun 2-4:30	Kane & Associates
\$849,000	1715 Otis Dr.	3 BD/2 BA	Sat & Sun 2-4	Central Alameda
\$849,500	644 Tarryton Isle	4 BD/2 BA	Sun 2-4	South Shore
\$850,000	1733 Santa Clara Ave.	4 BD/2.5 BA	Sun 2-5	Prudential Ca Realty
\$859,000	1534 Sherman St.	3 BD/2.5 BA	Sun 2-4	Central Alameda
\$869,000	2255 Clinton Ave.	3 BD/3 BA	Sat/Sun 2-4	Central Alameda
\$890,000	1713-1715 9th St.	2 houses on lot	Sun 2-4	West End
\$898,000	1605 Buena Vista Ave.	3 or 4 BD	Sun 2-4	Central Alameda
\$905,000	1439 East Shore Dr.	4 BD/3.5 BA	Sat & Sun 2-4:30	Bayside Real Estate
\$924,900	1933 Korman Pkwy	4 BD/2.5 BA	Sun 2-4	Harbor Bay Realty
\$925,000	1119 Regent St	3 Units	Sun 2-4	East End
\$929,000	2837 Marina Dr.	2 BD/1.5 BA	Sun 2-4	Kane & Associates
\$930,000	1619 Moreland Dr.	3 BD/2 BA	Sun 2-4	Fernside/District
\$985,000	2965 Southwood Dr.	3 BD/2.5 BA	Sun 2-4	Fernside District
\$999,000	9 Miranda Ct.	4 BD/3 BA	Sat/Sun 2-4	Harbor Bay Realty
\$1,080,000	431 Coia Ballena	3 BD/2.5 BA	Sun 2-4	Ballena Bay
\$1,099,000	2014 Santa Clara Ave.	2 Units	Sun 2-4	Central Alameda
\$1,195,000	1161 Bay Street	3 BD/2.5 BA	Sun 2-4	Central Alameda
\$1,230,000	1557 Pacific	6 BD/4 BA	Sun 2-4	Panavista Realty
\$1,299,000	334 Tideway Drive	2 BD/2.5 BA	Sat/Sun 2-4	Prudential CA Realty
\$1,500,000	300 Tideway Dr.	2 BD/2.5 BA	Sun 2-4	Ballena Bay

Albany

\$418,000	415 Cornell Ave #301	2bd/2ba	Open Sun 2-4	Coldwell Banker Bartels
\$569,000	787 Taft Ave. #B	2BD/2.5BA	Open Sun 2-4:30	Pacific Union Residential
\$649,900	1128 Talbot Ave	2bd/1ba	Open Sun 2-4	Coldwell Banker Bartels
\$669,000	909 Adams St. #D	3bd/3.5ba	Open Sun 2-4	Maison Nouveau
\$799,000	1048 Curtis Street	4BD/1BA	Open Sun 2-4:30	The Grubb Co.
\$925,000	888 Hillside Ave	4BD/2BA	Open Sat & Sun 1-4	Better Homes

Antioch

\$495,000	5225 Fairside Way	3BD/2BA	Open Sun 2-4:30	Wells & Bennett Realtors
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Berkeley

\$359,000	771 San Luis Rd	1bd/1ba	Open Sat 1-4	Berkeley Hills
\$469,000	1239 Oxford Street	1BD/1BA	Open Sun 2-4:30	Pacific Union GMAC
\$474,000	2327 9th Street	3BD/1.25BA	Open Sun 1-5	Pacific Union
\$484,000	2632 Warring St #10	2BD/1.5BA	Open Sun 2-5	For Sale by Owner
\$485,000	2275 Cedar St.	1BD/1BA	Open Sun 2-4:30	Pacific Union Residential
\$525,000	1207 Russell St	2bd/1ba	Open Sat 2-4:30	Prudential Grand Lake
\$525,000	2400 Dowling Place	1BD+Loft/1BA	Open Sat & Sun 11-6	Alpha Real Estate
\$534,000	2283 Cedar	2BD/1BA	Open Sat/Sun 1-4	Coldwell Banker
\$560,000	2400 Dowling Place	Loft/1.5BA	Open Sat & Sun 11-6	Alpha Real Estate
\$569,000	1638 Grant St.	2BD/1BA	Open Sun 2-4	Coldwell Banker
\$575,000	2400 Dowling Place	1BD+Loft/1.5BA	Open Sat & Sun 11-6	Alpha Real Estate
\$589,000	2400 Bonar St.	3bd/2ba	Open Sun 2-4	Marvin Gardens
\$599,000	2530 Sacramento St	3bd/1ba	Open Sun 2-4:30	Montclair Better Homes
\$625,000	1326 Curtis St	3bd/2ba	Open Sat/Sun 2-4:30	Prudential
\$635,000	2238 California St	2+bd/1ba	Open Sun 2-4:30	Montclair Better Homes
\$649,000	1140 Delaware	3bd/1ba	Open Sun 2-4:30	Agt. Candace Hyde-Wang
\$649,000	1329-31 Talbot	1bd/1ba	Open Sun 2-4	DUPLEX
\$649,000	1801 Chestnut Street	3BD/2BA	Open Sun 2-4:30	The Grubb Co.
\$650,000	2400 Dowling Pl	1BD+Loft+Offc/1.5BA	Open Sat & Sun 11-6	Alpha Real Estate
\$695,000	1511 Virginia Street	2BD/1BA	Open Sun 2-4:30	The Grubb Co.
\$699,000	14 Rock Lane	3BD/1BA	Open Sun 1-4	Coldwell Banker
\$699,000	2214 Carleton Street	3+BD/2BA	Open Sun 2-4:30	The Grubb Co.
\$725,000	1834 Cedar Street	2+BD/2BA	Open Sun 2-4:30	The Grubb Co.
\$729,000	832 Camella St.	2 Units	Open Sun 2-5	Valva Realty Co.
\$769,000	1127 Bancroft Way	4bd/3ba	Open Sun 2-4	Red Oak Realty
\$769,000	765 Nelson St	4+bd/2ba	Open Sat/Sun 2-4:30	Windermere Real Estate
\$770,000	11 Hill Road	3BD/3BA	Open Sat/Sun 2-4:30	Coldwell Banker
\$785,000	2208 7th St	DUPLEX	Open Sun 2-4	Red Oak Realty
\$790,000	60 Forest Lane	2 BD/1 BA	Sun 2-4	Berkeley Hills
\$850,000	2405 Hillside Avenue	4+BD/4+BA	Open Sat/Sun 2-4:30	Coldwell Banker
\$895,000	1516 Spruce Street	3+BD/2BA	Open Sun 2-4:30	The Grubb Co.
\$949,000	1521-1523 Milvia St	2bd/-ba	Open Sun 1-5	DUPLEX
\$995,000	1570 Olympus Avenue	3+BD/2.5BA	Open Sun 2-4:30	The Grubb Co.
\$999,000	2906 Florence St	4bd/2.5ba	Open Sun 2-4:30	Elmwood/DUPLEX
\$1,195,000	663 Vincente Ave	5bd/2ba	Open Sun 2-5	Thousand Oaks
\$1,250,000	1665 Thousand Oaks	4BD/3.5BA	Open Sun 2-4:30	The Grubb Co.

Berkeley

\$1,695,000	2753 Buena Vista Way	4bd/3.5ba	Open Sun 2-4:30	No. Berkeley
\$1,950,000	2630 Cedar Street	5BD/3BA	Open Sun 2-4:30	Alain Pinel Realtors
\$2,850,000	1231 Grizzly Peak	4BD/4.5BA	Open Sun 1:30-4:30	Coldwell Banker
\$2,890,000	85 Gravatt Drive	4BD/4.5BA	Open Sun 2-4	Alain Pinel Realtors
\$2,977,000	768 San Luis Road	3+BD/3BA	Open Sun 2-4	Coldwell Banker

Castro Valley

\$799,000	5508 Jasmine Ct.	4 BD/2 BA	Open Sun 2-4	Harbor Bay Realty
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Concord

\$269,000	4888 Clayton Road #25	2BD/1BA	Open Sun 2-5	Pacific Union
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El Cerrito

\$475,000	405 Ashbury Ave	2bd/1ba	Open Sun 2-4	Marvin Gardens
\$579,000	710 Elm St	3bd/1+ba	Open Sun 1-5	Prudential Piedmont
\$599,000	324 Pomona	2bd/1ba	Open Sun 2-4:30	Berkeley Hills RE
\$599,000	7819 Potrero Avenue	3BD/2BA	Open Sun 2-4:30	Wells & Bennett Realtors
\$599,650	435 Norvell St	3bd/1.5ba	Open Sun 2-4	Coldwell Banker Bartels
\$624,950	711 Everett ST	3bd/2ba	Open Sun 2-4	Coldwell Banker Bartels
\$639,000	718 Elm St	3bd/2ba	Open Sun 2-4	Red Oak Realty
\$699,000	818 Craft Ave	2bd/2.5ba	Open Sun 2-4	Marvin Gardens
\$1,150,000	1335 Contra Costa Drive	3+BD/3BA	Open Sun 2-4:30	El Cerrito Hills
\$1,239,000	1416 Devonshire Drive	4BD/3BA	Open Sun 2-4:30	El Cerrito Hills

El Sobrante

\$499,000	10 Dora Lane	3bd/2.5ba	Open Sun 1-4	Quail Hill
\$769,000	895 Bridgeway Cr.	4BD/3BA	Open Sun 1:30-4	Coldwell Banker

Emeryville

\$589,000	1228 54th St	2bd/1ba	Open Sun 2-4	Marvin Gardens
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Fremont

\$699,000	3917 Copeland Ln.	4 BD/2 BA	Open Sun 2-4	Alameda Realty
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Hayward

\$465,500	1801 Panda Way	2 BD/1.5 BA	Sun 1-4	Bayside Real Estate
\$675,000	31446 Brae Burn Ave.	3 BD/2 BA	Sun 2-4	Harbor Bay Realty
\$1,359,000	28836 Bailey Ranch Rd	5bd/4ba	Open Sat/Sun 2-5	Coldwell Banker Bartels

Hercules

\$599,999	130 Cardozo	3bd/2.5ba	Open Sun 1-3	Chelsea By The Bay
\$745,000	106 Jacaranda	3BD/2.5BA	Sat/Sun 1-4	Prudential CA Realty
\$795,000	636 Wellesley Ave	3bd/2ba	Open Sun 2-4:30	Marvin Gardens R.E.
\$1,100,000	56 Avon Road	4BD/2BA	Open Sun 2-5	Alain Pinel Realtors
\$1,265,000	37 Lam Ct	5bd/3.5ba	Open Sun 2-5	Red Oak Realty
\$1,295,000	210 Yale Avenue	3+BD/3BA	Open Sun 2-4:30	The Grubb Co.
\$1,398,000	145 Lawson Rd.	4 BD/4 BA	Sun 2-5	Help-U-Sell Alameda Homes
\$3,000,000	44 Marguerita Rd	5bd/5ba	Open Sun 2-4	Jill Hacker Real Estate

Lafayette

\$639,000	3279 Mt. Diablo Ct. #32	3bd/2.5ba	Open Sun 1-5	Re/Max E. Bay Hills
\$869,000	4175 Hidden Valley Rd.	4BD/2BA	Sat & Sun 1-4	Coldwell Banker
\$1,050,000	3281 Beechwood Drive	3BD/2BA	Open 1-4	Pacific Union GMAC
\$1,225,000	624 Humleigh Drive	4BD/2BA	Open 1-4	Pacific Union GMAC
\$1,299,000	12 White Oak Dr.	4BD/3BA	Open Sun 1-4	Alain Pinel Realtors

Lafayette

\$1,538,000	1153 Camino Vallecito	5bd/5ba	Open Sun 1-4	Coldwell Banker
Moraga				
\$259,000	1000 Sanders Drive	3bd/2ba	Open Sun 2-4:30	The Grubb Co.
Oakland				
\$259,000	425 Orange	Open Sun 2-5	Adams Pt	Prudential Piedmont
\$299,000	377 Palm Avenue, #103	Open Sun 2-4:30	Adams Point	The Grubb Co.
\$299,000	642 Beacon St.	Open Sun 2-4:30		Alain Pinel Realtors
\$299,950	551 Jean #410	Open Sun 2-5		Prudential Piedmont
\$305,500	455 Crescent St. #205	Open Sun 2-4:30	Grand Lake	Keller Williams
\$315,000	385 Jayne Ave #111	Open Sun 2-4:30	Adams Pt	Keller Williams
\$325,000	525 Mandana Unit #255	Open Sun 2-4:30	Crocker Highlands	The Grubb Co.
\$327,000	3768 Harrison #201	Open Sat/Sun 1-5	Piedmont Ave	Keller Williams
\$330,000	567 Oakland Ave #206	Open Sun 2-4:30	Adams Pt	Prudential Piedmont
\$349,000	401 Monte Vista #103	Open Sat/Sun 2-4:30		Windermere Real Estate
\$349,000	525 Mandana #112	Open Sun 2-4:30	Grand Lake	Prudential Berkeley
\$357,000	311 Oak Street #616	Open Sun 1-5		Pacific Union GMAC
\$359,000	532 30th Street #5	Open Sun 2-4		Alain Pinel Realtors
\$360,000	424 Staten #306	Open Sun 2-4:30	Adams Pt	Prudential Montclair
\$365,000	325 Vernon St #102	Open Sun 2-4	CONDO	Red Oak Realty
\$369,000	3648 Grand #7	Open Sun 2-4:30	Grand Lake	Montclair Better Homes
\$369,000	3825 High St #103	Open Sun 1-5		Prudential Montclair
\$369,000	590 55th St	Open Sun 1-5		Red Oak Realty
\$373,000	854 54th St	Open Sun 1-5	No. Oakland	Prudential Montclair
\$389,000	1910 Chestnut St	Open Sun 1-4	West Oakland	Prudential Piedmont
\$389,000	2876 Carmel #4	Open Sun 2-4:30		Montclair Better Homes
\$389,000	3600 Nevill St	Open Sun 1-4		MB Realty & Investment
\$399,000	1209 90th	Open Sun 2-4:30		Montclair Better Homes
\$399,000	3691 Maybelle Ave	Open Sun 2-4		Harbor Bay Realty
\$410,000	2222 57th Avenue	Open Sat 1-3:30		Wells & Bennett Realtors
\$415,000	1739-70th Ave	Open Sun 2-4		Prudential Montclair
\$425,000	2630 76th Ave	Open Sun 2-4:30	Eastmont	Montclair Better Homes
\$430,000	565 Bellevue Ave. #104	Open Sun 2-4:30	Lake Merritt	Keller Williams
\$439,000	320 51st St #A,C,D	Open Sun 2-4:30		Pacific Union GMAC
\$439,000	3817 Opal St.	Open Sat/Sun 1-4		Keller Williams Realty
\$444,000	5057 Roberts	Open Sat/Sun 2-4		Harbor Bay Realty
\$445,000	3012 Eastman Ave	Open Sun 2-4:30		Windermere Real Estate
\$449,950	1951 82nd Ave	Open Sun 2-4:30		Prudential Grand Lake
\$450,000	1400 Carpenter St #123	Sat & Sun 1-4		Keller Williams
\$450,000	2785 Frazier Ave	Sun 2-4		Homes-Link Real Estate
\$455,000	10857 Packard St	Open Sun 2-4:30		Alain Pinel Realtors
\$455,000	3633 High St.	Open Sun 2-4:30		Windermere Real Estate
\$459,000	2913 Violet St	Open Sun 2-4		Red Oak Realty
\$459,900	2872 Delaware St	Open Sun 2-4:30		Lower Laurel
\$463,000	2963 35th Ave	Open Sun 2-4:30		Maxwell Park
\$475,000	2449 E 21st Street	Sat & Sun		East Oakland
Gallagher & Lindsey Inc.				

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ALAMEDA



3 WASHOE COURT \$830,000
Marina Cove Open Sat & Sun 2-4
Charming 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath home on a quiet cul-de-sac steps from Grand Marina and a private park. Featuring open floor plan, large eat-in kitchen, private deck & patio and MORE!
www.gallagherandlindsey.com
Constance Farber 510-748-1126
Lainie Acacio 510-748-1172



1620 PARU STREET \$593,000
Central Alameda Open Sat & Sun 2-4
NEW LISTING! FIRST TIME OPEN - Excellent Bungalow style units. "Built-as" split level duplex with two spacious 1 bedroom, 1 bath units. Each with LR & DR, fireplace and MUCH MORE!
www.gallagherandlindsey.com
Ann Bracci 510-748-1807
Chih Wu 510-748-1162



3216 RAVENS COVE LANE \$649,500
Ravens Cove Open Sat & Sun 2-4
Completely updated 3 bedroom, 1.5 bath Ravens Cove town home featuring water views from living room and master bedroom. Hurry won't last long!
www.gallagherandlindsey.com
Bill & Griselda Blissett 510-748-1108
Steve DiGiulio 510-748-1171



1208 HIGH STREET \$668,000
Central Alameda Open Sat & Sun 2-4
Charming 3 bedroom (1 could be used for den or office), 1 bath Neo-Classic Rowhouse w/gourmet kitchen, sunny, hardwood floors throughout, deck overlooking private rear yard.
www.gallagherandlindsey.com
Angela McIntyre 510-748-1121
Sonia Lastreto 510-748-1110



2708 WASHINGTON STREET \$690,000
East End Open Sat & Sun 2-4
Back on the market 3 bedroom, 2 bath Spanish Mediterranean home. Featuring Hardwood floors, built-in hutch in formal dining area. Home has good bones but needs some TLC.
www.gallagherandlindsey.com
Justine Francis 510-748-1164
Roberta Rossi-Lopez 510-748-2002



1533 PACIFIC AVENUE \$475,000
Central Alameda Open Sat & Sun 2-4
Cozy Cottage is wonderful condo/TIC alternative. Practically rebuilt with many repairs. Berber/Pergo floors, two sheds and more!
www.gallagherandlindsey.com
Pacita Dimacali 510-748-1148
Anne DeBardeleben 510-748-1175



1715 OTIS DRIVE \$849,000
Central Alameda Open Sat & Sun 2-4
HUGE PRICE REDUCTION! Rare one level ranch style home on lagoon with spectacular views. 3 bedroom, 2 bath freshly painted inside and new carpets throughout.
www.gallagherandlindsey.com
Bill & Griselda Blissett 510-748-1108

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Gallagher & Lindsey Trolley Tour Of Alameda

"Ask how you can be a V.I.B." (Very Important Buyer)

Alameda Open Home Tour includes lunch at noon at G&L's 2424 Central Avenue office
Space is limited so be sure and call today to reserve your spot for June 11th
Please call (510)748-1771 and ask how you can become a V.I.B (Very Important Buyer)

ALAMEDA



437 SHEFFIELD ROAD \$695,000
Sand Piper Cove Open Sat & Sun 2-4
Rare one level Sand Piper Cove 2 bedroom, 2 bath with atrium. Low maintenance rear yard fully decked with hot tub and plenty of greenery.
www.gallagherandlindsey.com
Bill & Griselda Blissett 510-748-1108
Justine Francis 510-748-1164



300 TIDEAWAY DRIVE \$1,500,000
Ballena Bay Open Sunday 2-4
Beautiful 2 bedroom, 2.5 bath executive home w/panoramic Bay & San Francisco City view. Huge master suite with office, two deep water docks, gourmet kitchen & exercise room.
www.gallagherandlindsey.com
Jim Nations 510-748-1161



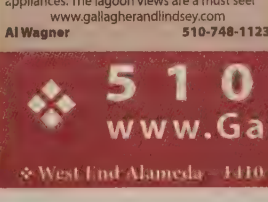
1 HOWE COURT \$819,000
Heritage Bay Open Sunday 2-4
Alameda open-air theatre transformed into "California Heritage Bay" 105 homes by Kaufman & Broad includes this ultimate contemporary "Hudson" plan of 4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths.
www.gallagherandlindsey.com
Signe Nelson 510-748-1103
Miss "Sam" McDowell 510-748-1131



2965 SOUTHWOOD DRIVE \$985,000
Fornside District Open Sat & Sun 2-4
Custom built charmer w/original craftsmanship. This 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath home features oversized family room, hardwood floors, new roof, 2-car garage, landscaped yard & more!
www.gallagherandlindsey.com
Tom Holstlaw 510-748-1106



1214 NINTH STREET \$649,000
West End By Appointment Only
3 bedroom, 2 bath Cottage style home with interior totally remodeled. Master Suite. Featuring full basement potential. This is not a drive by.
www.gallagherandlindsey.com
Moon Tam 510-747-1620



311 LAGUNA VISTA AVENUE \$785,000
Bay View Estates By Appointment Only
This 2 bedroom, 2 bath single level home has a completely remodeled kitchen with all new appliances. The lagoon views are a must see!
www.gallagherandlindsey.com
Al Wagner 510-748-1123

ALAMEDA



431 COLA BALLENA \$1,080,000
Ballena Bay Open Sunday 2-4
40' deep water dock & house on S.F. Bay! RARE! Enjoy the vacation lifestyle of this house on a small island that is the Bay Areas best-kept secret. Views of Bay, mountains & city lights.
www.gallagherandlindsey.com
Ruth Masonick 510-748-1101



1619 MORELAND DRIVE \$930,000
Fornside/Edison Area Open Sunday 2-4
New 3 bedroom, 2 bath listing featuring formal living & dining rooms, fireplace, country kitchen w/nook. Also has plus room, tool shed & MORE!
www.gallagherandlindsey.com
Signe Nelson 510-748-1103
Troy Staten 510-748-1125



1713-1715 9th STREET \$890,000
West End Open Sunday 2-4
TWO HOUSES ON ONE LOT! Great opportunity! Front house is a 3 bedroom with large living room and formal dining room. Rear house is a 2 bedroom. Live in one - rent the other!
www.gallagherandlindsey.com
Alicia Garvin 510-748-1116



1605 BUENA VISTA AVENUE \$898,000
Central Alameda Open Sunday 2-4
Luxurious & sensational. Adaptable 3-4 bedroom home w/\$100K upgrades: digital communication/security system, surround sound, granite counters & MORE!
www.gallagherandlindsey.com
Pacita Dimacali 510-748-1148



2821 SAN JOSE AVENUE \$725,000
East End By Appointment Only
Rare East End 3 bedroom, 1.5 bath Craftsman. Featuring formal dining room with built-in hutch, stainless steel & bonus patio/office room.
www.gallagherandlindsey.com
Bill & Griselda Blissett 510-748-1108

ALAMEDA



1200 SAN ANTONIO AVENUE \$2,850,000
Gold Coast By Appointment Only
One of the largest and most magnificent homes in Alameda's historic Gold Coast is here. With over 6000 sq. ft. of living space on four levels, this turn-of-the-century original is available by appointment only.
www.gallagherandlindsey.com
Don Lindsey 510-521-8181

ANTIOCH



4135 DONNER COURT \$575,000
Wild Horse By Appointment Only
Beautiful 4 bedroom, 3 full bath home w/bonus sitting room! Loaded w/upgrades such as: new flooring, refinished staircase, dramatic entrance w/vaulted ceiling, 2-car garage & much more!
www.gallagherandlindsey.com
Darryl & Yolanda Freeman 510-748-1165

BERKELEY



50 FOREST LANE \$790,000
Berkeley Hills Open Sunday 2-4
2 bedroom, 1 bath home w/delightful Bay views & many upgrades. Well cared for, bright/airy floor plan & remodeled kitchen. Lush backyard and deck that's perfect for entertaining.
www.gallagherandlindsey.com
Ty Welchhart 510-748-1118

EL CERRITO



1751 LIBERTY STREET #105 \$420,000
Cerrito Park Terrace By Appointment Only
Hurry in for this beautiful 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo located in the heart of El Cerrito. Close to school, shopping, hwy 80 and walking distance to BART and Target.
www.gallagherandlindsey.com
Eric Tam 510-748-1135

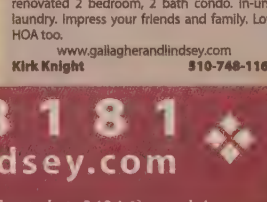
HAYWARD



25714 SPRING DRIVE \$399,000
Near CSU East Bay By Appointment Only
Don't miss this dramatically renovated 2 bedroom, 2 bath unit, nestled on the Hillside below CSU East Bay. Looks and feels like new!
www.gallagherandlindsey.com
Dave Park 510-748-1198
Kirk Knight 510-748-1168



22742 3rd STREET \$560,000
Hayward By Appointment Only
Great 2 bedroom, 1 bath home near Hayward Hills. Remodeled kitchen, plus rooms, large lot and new carpets.
www.gallagherandlindsey.com
Meredith Divita 510-748-2005



25718 SPRING DRIVE \$409,000
Near CSU East Bay By Appointment Only
Last unit! Views across Bay from this dramatically renovated 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. In-unit laundry. Impress your friends and family. Low HOA too.
www.gallagherandlindsey.com
Kirk Knight 510-748-1168

HERCULES

133 ARMSTRONG COURT
The Heights By Appointment Only
5 bedroom, 3 bath home up on a hill, w/ de-sac court encircled by slopping hills, w/ a seclusion providing panoramic views.
www.gallagherandlindsey.com
Miss "Sam" McDowell 510-748-1131

OAKLAND



2449 E 21st STREET
East Oakland Open Sat & Sun 2-4
Totally renovated 2 bedroom, 2 bath home. New roof, kitchen & baths. Hardwood floors throughout. 3 car detached garage w/ private driveway. Large lot with potential for more.
www.gallagherandlindsey.com
Kitty Wan 510-748-1171



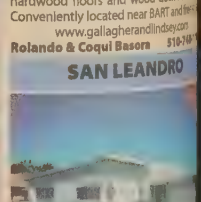
925 E 19th STREET
Oakland Open Sat & Sun 2-4
Turn of the century 3 bedroom, 2 bath home in great condition with city view. Features living room, dining room, fireplace in living room, of storage & basement w/new foundation.
www.gallagherandlindsey.com
Bill & Griselda Blissett 510-748-1108



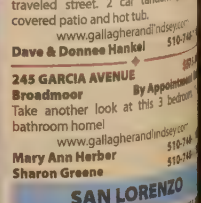
2558 55th AVENUE
Maxwell Park Open Sat & Sun 2-4
Must see this nice house ready to move in! 3 bedroom, 2 bath home including a master suite & retreat upstairs with private view off dining room, superbly landscaped yard w/spacious Loggia for easy entertaining.
www.gallagherandlindsey.com
Rolando & Coqui Basora 510-748-1165



4417 TOMPKINS AVENUE
Upper Laurel Open Sat & Sun 2-4
Charming Spanish style home; 2 bedrooms, 2 bath, plus room, hardwood floors, fabulous view off dining room, superbly landscaped yard w/spacious Loggia for easy entertaining.
www.gallagherandlindsey.com
Angela McIntyre 510-748-1121



115 MARINA WAY
Richmond Open Sat & Sun 2-4
Nice home in move-in condition with 3 bedrooms, 1 bath & covered garage. Hardwood floors and wood deck in back. Conveniently located near BART and shopping.
www.gallagherandlindsey.com
Rolando & Coqui Basora 510-748-1165



245 GARCIA AVENUE
Broadmoor By Appointment Only
Take another look at this 3 bedroom, 2 bath home!
www.gallagherandlindsey.com
Mary Ann Herber 510-748-1171
Sharon Greene 510-748-1171



969 VIA MANZANITAS
San Lorenzo Village By Appointment Only
Must see! Beautiful 3 bedroom, 1 bath home on quiet tree-lined street. Enchanting view! boasts a koi pond with a tranquil waterfall.
www.gallagherandlindsey.com
Sandi Hamilton 510-748-1171
Lisa Perry 510-748-1171

510.521.8181
www.GallagherandLindsey.com

West End Alameda - 1410 Webster Street

East End Alameda - 2424 Central Avenue

Section C

Improbable champs

The squad of Greyson Tarantino, Adam Marvin, Ryan Hull and Brandon Harris finished third in 20.47 to qualify for the CIF state championships.

See BOYS, Page 2

PLAYING

"THE BEE": Akeelah (Queen Latifah), a young African-American girl, is an underachiever who participates in the spelling bee. Conflicts between her and her mother (R. Butler) (PG) 1 hour, 52 minutes.

"SCHOOL CONFIDENTIAL": A young man's life is a series of lies and deceptions. Bay Area director (PG) 1 hour, 52 minutes.

"INSIDE MAN": This clever heist drama not only jump-starts director Spike Lee's career, but revitalizes the tired genre. Four robbers (Clive Owen among them), take nearly 50 people hostage at a Manhattan bank. With Denzel Washington as the negotiator on the scene. — R. Myers. (R: language, some violent content.) 2 hours, 9 minutes. A-

"JUST MY LUCK": In this waltz like comedy, Lindsay Lohan is a too-young, too-pretty PR firm functionary who owes her success to luck. Jake (Chris Pine) is her polar opposite, a janitor in a bowling alley. He crashes her VIP party and, with a kiss, they exchange love. She loses it. He has it. — R. Moore. (PG-13: some brief sexual references.) 1 hour, 40 minutes. C

"KEEPING UP WITH THE STEINS": This sitcom masquerading as a movie amusingly follows the planning of a bar mitzvah. Lots of kvetching among family members, with tidy solutions. The cast, especially Jeremy Piven and Jami Gertz, is fine but the script ho-hum. — R. Myers. (PG-13: some crude language, nudity, brief drug references.) 1 hour, 24 minutes. C+

"THE LOST CITY": Andy Garcia's ode to the Havana of pre-revolution Cuba is a romantic epic that doesn't say much. His character, Fico, is living the high life as owner of a glamorous Havana nightclub when the revolution sweeps in. His two younger brothers fervently embrace it, but Fico predicts the country's destruction under Castro. — S. Holden. (R: violence.) 2 hours, 23 minutes. C-

"M.I.III.": Super agent Ethan Hunt (Tom Cruise) returns for his most accomplished big-screen mission yet, going after a deadly arms dealer (Philip Seymour Hoffman). Loaded with intense action, snappy writing and great performances. Nearly loses control at the end, but not

sexual situations, some thematic material.) 1 hour, 58 minutes. C

"ICE AGE: THE MELTDOWN": Three furry friends — Manny the mammoth, Sid the sloth and Diego the saber-toothed tiger — head out on a journey to find an ark as an ice dam surrounding their village threatens to buckle. Sound moral lessons for the kiddies, and the animation is better than the screenplay. — R. Myers. (PG: some mild language, innuendo.) 1 hour, 25 minutes. C+

"OVER THE HEDGE": The 'burbs get irreverently roasted in this peppy animated feature that avoids being another "Shrek" rip-off. A gang of woodland critters (voiced by Bruce Willis, Gary Shandling and Wanda Sykes, among others) tries to make peace with the growing suburbia next door. — R. Myers. (PG: some rude humor, mild comic action.) 1 hour, 36 minutes. B

"POSEIDON": The 1972 upside-down luxury liner disaster classic "The Poseidon Adventure" was all about action, not the characters. But this remake goes the opposite way. Bad movie. Instead of Shelley Winters, we get Richard Dreyfuss. Hollow and boring. — R. Myers. (PG-13: intense prolonged sequences of disaster and peril.) 1 hour, 39 minutes. C-

"THE PROPOSITION": Kill your crazy older brother so your younger one can live. That's the moral quandary faced by an 1880s desperado (Guy Pearce) in this blood-soaked, risk-taking Western set in the outback. Screenplay by indie musician Nick Cave. — R. Myers. (R: strong, grisly violence, language.) 1 hour, 44 minutes. A-

"RV": A slap-happy comedy starring Robin Williams as a soft-drink executive who, when a deal is about to go sour, rents an R.V. and takes the wife and kids on the road. — R. Moore. (PG: crude humor, innuendo, language.) 1 hour, 38 minutes. B

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"THE BREAK-UP" (PG-13)
Stubborn former lovers (Jennifer Aniston and Vince Vaughn) bicker about who will leave and who will remain in their killer Chicago condo.

"DISTRICT B13" (R)
In the not-too-distant future, a Parisian officer risks life and limb by infiltrating a walled-in ghetto so he can detonate a bomb. A Luc Besson production.

"AN INCONVENIENT TRUTH" (PG)
Al Gore's impassioned plea for Americans to pay attention to global warming is the focus of this documentary.

"PEACEFUL WARRIOR" (PG-13)
After a serious injury, a gymnast learns how to live a more fulfilling life, thanks to a stranger (Nick Nolte). Based on Dan Millman's best-selling novel.

"THE PUFFY CHAIR" (R)
A road trip to deliver a purple recliner as a gift triggers a series of misadventures for a twentysomething trio.

"RAIDERS OF THE LOST ARK" (PG)
The Castro Theatre celebrates the

25-year anniversary of the adventure classic by showing it for one week in a new print.

"TYPHOON" (R)
This Korean action movie revolves around the adversarial relationship between a pirate and a naval officer.

Coming soon
"THE OMEN" (R)
A remake of the Gregory Peck horror classic, this time starring Julia Stiles, Liev Schreiber and Mia Farrow. (June 6)

"A PRAIRIE HOME COMPANION" (PG-13)
Robert Altman teams with writer Garrison Keillor for this film version of Keillor's beloved radio show. With Meryl Streep, Lily Tomlin and Lindsay Lohan. (June 9)

"SUPERMAN" (PG-13)
After a long hiatus, the Man of Steel returns to the big screen. Directed by Bryan Singer, with Kevin Spacey, Kate Bosworth and newcomer Brandon Routh. (June 30)

Calendar

Submissions to the Community Calendar must be received Thursdays one week prior to publication. Listings are on a space-available basis. Mail submissions to Pam Middings, 1516 Oak St., Alameda, CA 94501; e-mail them to voice@ccimes.com, pmiddings@ccimes.com or fax them to 510-748-1683. Call 510-748-1683 if you have questions.

Coming Up
Literary events

Actors Reading Writers: Celebrating Writing through Live Readings, June 5, 7:30 p.m., Berkeley City Club, 2315 Durant Ave., Berkeley. "English Eccentrics," stories by Alan Bennett and PG. Wodehouse, 7 p.m., piano music by Paul Bregman. Free. Book exchange, bring or take a book.

Mrs. Dalloway's Literary and Garden Arts — Readings at 2904 College Ave., Berkeley, June 3, 3 p.m., Keely Meadows, author of "Making Gardens Works of Art," gives garden demonstration. June 4, 1 p.m., Maxine Rose Schur reads from "Places in Time: Reflections on a Journey." June 6, 7 p.m., Linda Donn reads from "The Little Balloonist." June 7, 3:30 p.m., Monica Wood reads from "Any Bitter Thing." June 8, 7 p.m., Michael Pollan reads from "The Omnivore's Dilemma." June 13, 8 p.m., Andrew Dean Nystrom presents slideshow to accompany "Top Trails: Yellowstone & Grand Teton National Parks." June 15, 7 p.m., Sandy Tolan reads from "The Lemon Tree: An Arab, a Jew, and the Heart of the Middle East." Details: mrsdalloways.com.

Poetry Express — Mondays, 7 p.m., Priya Indian Cuisine, 2072 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley. Weekly open mike hosted by Mark States. Coming up: June 5: Avotcja, Ramon Pinerio. June 12: John Rowe. June 19: Tim Nuven. June 26: open mike theme night "the blues." Details: berkeleypoetryexpress@yahoo.com.

Rhythm and Muse — 7 p.m., Berkeley Art Center, 1275 Walnut St. Piano & two mics available. Free; donations appreciated. Upcoming: June 24, Marc Hofstadter. Details: 510-644-6693 or 510-527-9753. — June 10, 7-9 p.m. In Celebration of Swimming, Wisdom Tales, Swimming Lore, and Water Music featuring oud master Sidi Yassir, Blythe

Blood drives — American Red Cross, June 2, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., 5th Floor, Tilden Room, MLK Student Union, June 27-28, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., East Pauley Ballroom, UC Berkeley, Bancroft & Telegraph avenues, Berkeley. Details: 800-GIVE-LIFE, BeADonor.com (code: UCBA).

June 11, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., St. Mary Magdalen Parish, Parish Hall, 2005 Benvenuto St., Berkeley. Appointments: 510-526-4811.

See EVENTS, Page C4

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ORINDA ACADEMY
summer school 2006

Session 1: June 19 - July 11
Session 2: July 13 - August 4
9:00 am - 1:00pm

- Earn High School Credit
- Algebra 1 & 2, Precalculus, Geometry
- English, U.S. History, Spanish
- Basic Skills Review for Middle School
- SAIT Prep for Math & English
- College Prep Requirements
- One-on-one interaction with teachers
- Small class sizes

Limited openings still available for Fall 2006

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ORINDA ACADEMY
2400 Orinda Road, Orinda (925) 254-7533 x303
www.orindaacademy.org

DAY MOVIE LISTINGS

Friday June 2

Alameda County

Alameda County
11:15, 4:45, 9:30

Bay Street 16
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FROM PAGE C3

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■ **Berkeley Historical Society** — Spring 2006 Walking Tours, 10 a.m.-12 p.m. June 3: Lorin: Kindred Spirit or Conquest? June 10, 11 a.m., New Berkeley City College Building. Cost: \$8-\$10 each, \$30 for all tours. Reservations: make check payable to Berkeley Historical Society, mail to P.O. Box 1190, Berkeley, CA 94701. Details: cityofberkeley.info/histso/ or 510-848-0181.

■ **Berkeley Farmers' Markets** — June 3, annual Family Fun Festival, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Civic Center Park, Center Street at Martin Luther King Jr. Way. Featuring live performances by Asheba, Young Fiddlers, Maggie the Clown, Latiat Larry, EarthCapades Environmental Vaudeville, more. Hands-on activities, informational booths. Details: ecology-center.org, 510-548-3333.

■ **"A Taste of Albany"** — June 4, Solano Avenue, Albany. Enjoy a small town walk-about; event features tastes from menus at over 20 restaurants, music by 20 jazz groups, cable car rides, children's entertainment, arts & crafts. Details: 510-525-1771, albanychamber@albanychamber.org.

■ **Immigrant Solidarity 2006** — June 4, 1-4 p.m., St. Joseph the Worker School, 2125 Jefferson St., Berkeley. 1:30 p.m., press conference. An update of the current immigration situation with Attorney Mark Silverman; free legal consultations; bilingual screening of "Dying to Live" hosted by immigrant rights activist Edgar Ayala; music by KPFA's Francisco Herrera, international food, more. Free. Details: 510-665-5821, admin@berkeleyboca.org.

■ **Senior Housing Options** — North Berkeley Senior Center, 1901 Hearst Avenue, Berkeley, June 6, 1 p.m., Part I, Panel discussion on housing options: independent living facility, assisted living facility, community care retirement community, life care community, Alzheimer's care program. Q&A, signups for facilities tours. — June 22, 7 p.m., Part 2: "The Needle in the Haystack—Finding the Right Retirement Community" by Donna Robbins. Details: Joann 510-848-1960 x246, joann@thornwallproperties.com.

■ **2006 Albany Youth of the Year Award** — Albany Chamber of Commerce now accepting nominations for Albany High School students involved in volunteer work. Students don't have to live in Albany. Submit a one-page letter with the name of candidate, their address, phone number and a compelling argument describing in detail the accomplishments of their nominee during the period 2005-2006, and why nominee should be considered. Family members can not nominate each other. Please mail your nomination letter to the Chamber of Commerce, 1108 Solano Ave., Albany 94706; or e-mail to albanychamber@albanychamber.org. Include your name, address, telephone number, e-mail address if you have one. Details: 510-525-1771.

■ **Punks for Pets concert fund-raiser** — June 10, 8 p.m., 924 Gilman St., Berkeley. Bands include Uptones, Plus Ones, Abi Yo Yos, Annie Sanders, Ghost Next Door. Proceeds benefit Berkeley-East Bay Humane Society. \$6. Details: berkeleyhumane.org, 924gilman.org.

■ **Live Oak Park Fair** — June 10-11, 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Live Oak Park, 1301 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. Arts and crafts showcase features 125 local artists and craftspeople. Handcrafted jewelry, ceramics, woodwork, clothing, paintings, photography, toys, art glass, more. Children's entertainment, live music by Jazzschool, food & drink. Details: 510-898-3282, liveoakparkfair.com.

■ **Community Labyrinth Peace Walk** — June 11, 3 p.m., Willard Middle School, 2425 Stuart St., Berkeley. All welcome, rain cancels. June 11: rededication guided by Margie Adam. — June 10, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., labyrinth re-painting; volunteers needed. Details: Nina@NinaHam.com, 510-526-7377.

■ **Albany Senior Center** — 846 Masonic Ave., Albany, June 14, 10:30-11:30 a.m., Traditional Dances to Reconnect with the Earth. No special agility required. Donation to ASC requested. Details: Catherine 510-528-2261.

■ **RabbitEARS Dog Wash fund-raiser** — June 17, 12-4 p.m., RabbitEARS Adoption Store, 303 Arlington Ave., Kensington. Bring your dirty dog for an old-fashioned dog wash, warm-water hosing and drying. Donations earmarked for spay/neuter in Contra Costa County. RabbitEARS one year birthday cake for clean dogs, people. Details: 510-525-6155, fixpets@yahoo.com.

Outdoors

■ **Recreational Equipment Inc.** — Free events at 1338 San Pablo Ave.,

Berkeley. — June 4, 18; 10-11 a.m., Hands-on Bicycle Clinic. — June 3, 8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m., Tilden Regional Park, Berkeley. National Trails Day celebrated with Service Projects. Volunteers needed to assist in maintaining narrow trails which need improvement; drainage, outcropping, pruning, etc. Maps with directions provided. Volunteers should bring hat, gloves, sunscreen, water, dress in layers and wear long sleeved shirts, long pants, and sturdy shoes. Work until 12:30, then lunch is included. Please no pets. Pre-registration required: call 510-527-7386 x259. — June 6, 7 p.m., Pack Light, Pack Right: Tips for Comfort on the Trail. — June 27, 7 p.m., Great Weekend Camping and Backpacking Trips in Northern California Wilderness Areas. Details: 510-527-4140 or rei.com/stores.

■ **University of California Botanical Garden** — 200 Centennial Drive, Berkeley, June 3, July 1; 9 a.m.-12 p.m., Sick Plant Clinic. — June 13, 6-8 p.m., "In the Company of Wild Butterflies" Film. \$8-\$10. Q&A follows. — June 15, 10:30 a.m.-12 p.m., Summer Family Fun Day. Children with an adult can enjoy a hands-on investigation, start a mini-garden, see Garden with new eyes through art and math. Third Thursdays monthly: July 20, Aug. 17. Activities change monthly. Picnic lunches encouraged. \$14-\$18; price includes one parent and one child, additional adult or children per family \$7 each. Details: 510-643-2755 or botanicalgarden.berkeley.edu.

■ **Berkeley Path Wanderers Association** — June 10, 10 a.m., Berkeley's Willard Park Area. Meet at Russell Street by the streetcar bend near Regent Street. Exploration of architecture and fascinating remnants of local history. Itinerary/information at well.com/~ronks/pix/willardplus/. Moderate, mostly flat walk. — July 8, 10 a.m., meet at Channing Way and 10th Street. Exploration of Southwest Berkeley's fascinating industrial and working-class history; imaginative and architecturally exciting re-uses; and an urban greenway a-borning. Walk is moderate, lively, fairly long; wear comfortable shoes and bring water. Free. Details: 510-848-9358, fscreeds@aol.com.

Children's events

■ **California Girls Basketball Camps** — Haas Pavilion, UC Berkeley, June 3, Parent/Child Clinic for grades K-8, boys and girls. \$100 per parent/child pair, \$25 per additional child. — June 4, Jamfest Team Camp. High School, Junior Varsity, Middle School, AAU teams welcome. \$30/team. — June 19-22, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Day Camp I for grades 4-

NEW YORK TIMES MAGAZINE CROSSWORD PUZZLE

REVERSE EFFECTS BY TIMOTHY POWELL / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

ACROSS

1 Voyaging

5 Hitchhiker

10 Percentage

15 Somewhat

19 Writes quickly

21 Plaque, e.g.

22 Volcanic formation

23 Show a Woody Allen feature?

25 Heart

26 Margy mutt

27 Medical research org.

28 Not a substitute

29 Thomas Paine, for one

30 Magazine supply

32 Certain spawner

34 Quick trip

35 Bryologists' study

36 What agents do?

41 Sad

44 One side in a debate

45 Kung ___ chicken

48 Off the mark

49 Razzes

53 Ties up

55 3.26 light-years

57 Abandon the Centennial State?

59 Sound from a hot tub

60 Yellow flag

61 Env. science

62 Night school subj.

65 Not so Big Apple?

72 Lead-in for long

73 Abbr. on an envelope

75 Words of concession

76 Airline abbr.

78 Cut an awful demo?

84 Sol's state

88 Saw

89 Feel extreme discouragement

91 Sports page news

92 Show featuring many alumni of L.A.'s Groundlings comedy troupe

93 Mineral residue

95 Made multiple

97 Drink at a Kyoto reunion?

101 Certain Arab

104 Each

105 Book before Phil.

106 Make a mad dash

110 On the range, say

111 Summertime quaffs

114 Like about half the world's pop.

116 God, in Roma

117 Inispid

118 What a hypnotist might do for help?

121 Construction

122 Eastern European

123 Happens

124 Tavern selections

125 To the point

126 Köln or Nürnberg

127 Like a spent campfire

DOWN

1 Org. for pound watchers?

2 Flu fighter

3 Vast, in verse

4 Descriptive wd.

5 Most spicy

6 Monk's title

7 Wrapped up

8 Greek vowels

9 Best Musical of 1996

10 Experts, slangily

11 Babe or fox

12 Alternative to a dish

13 Big laugh

14 West end?

15 Public ___

16 Car in a Mussorgsky opera

17 Busy

18 Transcripts

20 Capitol Hill abbr.

24 Biblical verb

29 Crunchy chip

31 The Pearl of the Black Sea

33 Like ears

35 Traveler's stop

37 It runs down the leg

38 Peter Fonda title role

39 Actor Beatty and others

40 Completely

41 Baby's resting spot

42 G.P.'s grp.

43 45-Down in Russian

45 43-Down in English

46 Fire

47 "___ Mio"

50 One-pointers

51 First name in courtroom drama

52 Stay up nights

54 Charlemagne's realm: Abbr.

56 A.L. or N.L. Central city

58 Ejaculate

62 Tombstone

63 Place for an outboard motor

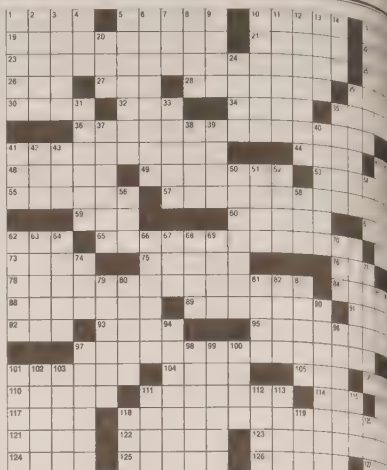
64 Maj.'s superior

66 Just a bite

67 Suffix with form

68 Mary in the White House

69 Longtime Ferrara family name



70 Places for forks: Abbr.

71 Where something may be brewing

74 Mo. with topaz as its birthstone

77 Precisionist

79 Automaker's bane

80 Donald Duck, e.g.

81 Stove or washer: Abbr.

82 How you may know something

83 All-American name

85 La ___ Bolivia

86 Ben Jonson wrote one to himself

87 Like Twizzlers, usually

90 Hospital hook up

94 Unknown element

96 Emily Dickinson's home

97 Bidding card game

98 Cultural entertainment

99 Spin

100 Candid

101 Kind of queen

102 Acoustic

103 Cup, maybe

107 Best and Ferber

12. \$325. — June 30-July 2, Elite Camp for grades 9-12. \$325-\$400. — July 10-13, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Day Camp 2 for grades 4-12. \$325. — July 24-27, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Junior Cub Camp for grades K-6. \$325. Details: 510-642-9448.

■ **Habitot Children's Museum** — Events at 2065 Kittredge St., Berkeley. June 7, Environmental Health Day. 10-11 a.m., bring items from home like pottery, jewelry, toys, kids' lunch boxes for lead testing. 11 a.m.-1 p.m., Center of Environmental Health will be on hand. — June 9, Safe Kids Day. 11 a.m.-1 p.m., kids receive photo ID cards. Fingerprinting kits for kids. — June 10, 1-5 p.m., Father's Day and Summer Portraits taken. Photo packages \$15+. — June 14, 9:30 a.m.-1 p.m., Flag Day celebration. Help create a

giant U.S. flag by adding red, white, blue objects to a group art project, to be donated to local veteran's organization. — July 10-Aug. 28, 8 week-long sessions of Camp Habitat. For kids 2-5 years old. Play with other children, free play with toys/puzzles, circle time, dramatic play with costumes, museum visits, cooking, storytelling, art, music, dance. Morning or afternoon sessions. \$165-\$195. Details: 510-647-1111 or habitat.org.

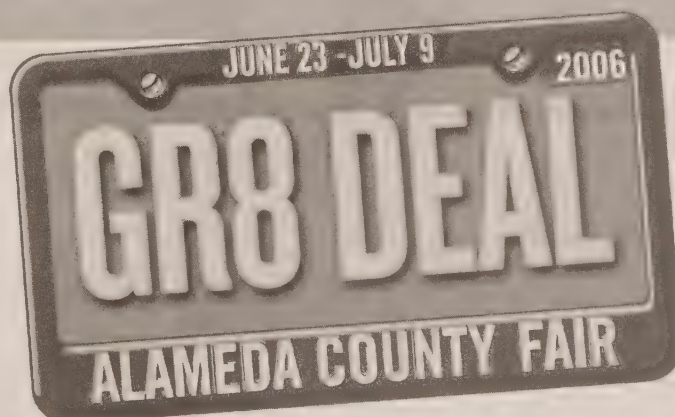
■ **Summer Theatre Intensive** — Berkeley Repertory School of Theatre, 2071 Addison St., Berkeley. Students in grades 6-12 create & perform a play. Session 1: June 19-July 14, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., (grades 6-8); cost \$1,040. Session 2: July 17-Aug. 11, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. (grades 9-12); \$1,100. Scholarships available. Details: 510-647-2978, berkeleyrep.org, school@berkeleyrep.org.

leyrep.org, school@berkeleyrep.org.

■ **Summer Drama Camps** — Contra Costa Civic Theatre. Regular Drama Camp sessions for ages 7-12, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. weekdays: June 19-30, July 3-14, July 31-Aug. 5, Aug. 14-25. Learn theatre basics, help produce a video, participate in theatre production. Cost: \$575. — Advanced Camp for ages 12-16, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. weekdays: July 3-14, July 17-28. Build skills for high school theatre & beyond. — Pre-Camp for ages 5-7, 9 a.m.-12 p.m., June 12-16. Intro to camp; kids perform in costume on final day. Cost: \$220, childcare until 1 p.m. \$45. Drama Camp & Precamp at 951 Pomona Ave., El Cerrito. Advanced Camp at Prospect Sierra High School, 2060 Tapscott Ave., El Cerrito. Details: 510-524-9132, cctc.org.

■ **Kurukula** — Self-Defense, Leadership, & Life Skills for Young Women. Now enrolling for summer sessions. Albany Community Center, 1040 Albany Ave., Albany. Ages 9-12: Aug. 14-16, 23, 30, 10 a.m.-12 p.m., \$80. Details: kurukula.com, 510-524-9132.

■ **Berkeley Rep School of Theatre** — Summer classes, 2071 Addison St., Berkeley. July 8-Aug. 5, Session 1: 11 a.m., Acting Adventures (Grades 5-7), \$130. — July 8-Aug. 12, Session 2: 9:30-11 a.m., Paper Capes (Grades K-2), \$140. — By request: Dueling Duos — Private Stage Camp for Two (Grades 5+), \$80. Scholarships available for youth. Details: 510-647-2972, berkeleyrep.org.



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Mon, June 26
Tues, June 27
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Thu, June 29
Fri, June 30
Sat, July 1
Sun, July 2

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Craig Chaquico
Los Tiranos del Norte
Bowling For Soup
Tea Leaf Green
Rita Moreno
Steven Curtis Chapman
Mark Curry
Pablo Cruise
Ricky Skaggs & Kentucky Thunder

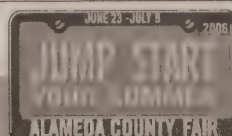
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Wed, July 5
Thu, July 6
Fri, July 7
Sat, July 8
Sun, July 9

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Red, White and Blues Festival*
(10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.)
Pat Boone
Big Bad Voodoo Daddy
Smash Mouth
The Temptations Review
featuring Dennis Edwards
Miranda Lambert

JUNE 26 - MONDAY MADNESS - FREE BEFORE 3:00 P.M.

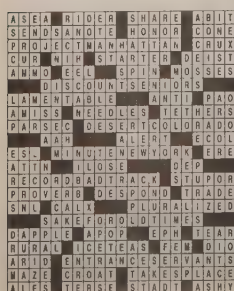


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Grinding. Grinding is the most expensive sound brakes make. This results when all the friction material has worn completely away and the only thing that remains is the metal backing. When braking, the metal surface rubs the brake rotor, causing irreversible damage to the brake rotor. In this case both the brake pad and brake rotor will need replacement.

Groaning. Groaning happens when the brake rotor surface has become compromised. Examples are glazed rotors, which result when brake material fuses to the surface of the rotor, creating a smooth surface. Ridging happens when the brake pad material wears unevenly and creates high/low spotting on the rotor surface. This condition is usually not urgent but can reduce braking efficiency.

4. Squeaking. Squeaking can happen if the brake pads are equipped with warning sensors. When the friction material wears down to 15% or so, the sensor will gently rub the surface of the brake rotor, creating a squeaking noise. It's a clever warning system to notify you that your brake pads need replacement before extensive damage is done to the brake rotors.

Of course, there are many conditions that will result in brake noise: broken brake hardware, ABS problems, hydraulic failure, even dirt. Also it's easy to mistake vibration for noise. Generally, if your car starts making an unusual brake noise or symptom or especially if the car is "new" to you, have a professional brake inspection done. The inspection will pay for itself in safety and peace of mind and pocketbook. Again we hope this answers some of your questions.

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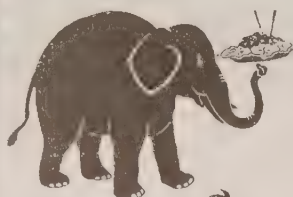
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THE DINING GUIDE

Featured Menu



AMARIN
THAI CUISINE



APPETIZERS

Mieng Kum \$8.95

Fresh, crisp cups of butter lettuce to be filled with a savory mixture of steamed prawns, shredded roasted coconut, peanuts, diced ginger, red onion, lime, and choice of mild red bell or spicy Thai chili pepper, topped with a sweet caramelized coconut-shrimp paste sauce.

Fresh Amarin Rolls \$6.95

Imitation crab, vermicelli rice noodle, mint and bean sprouts wrapped in fresh rice noodle and served with special peanut-plum sauce.

ENTREES

Galanga Seafood \$15.95

Salmon, scallops, mussels, and prawns sautéed with Thai herbs, galanga, coconut milk, onions, bell peppers and cauliflower.

Green Curry Seafood \$15.95

Catfish and salmon in a savory green curry with pumpkin, taro, bell peppers, and basil.

Vegetables Sauté \$8.95

Fresh eggplant, broccoli, cauliflower, snow peas, and oyster mushroom sautéed with yellow curry powder and Thai herbs.

DESSERTS

Floating Lotus \$3.50

Sweet potato, taro, and pumpkin with rice flour, floating in sweetened pandan flavored coconut milk.

Thai Custard with Sweet Sticky Rice \$4.25

Sweet sticky rice topped with homemade Thai custard.

Fresh Mango with Sweet Sticky Rice \$4.25

Sweet sticky rice topped with fresh mango.



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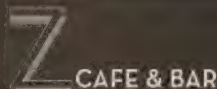
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Montclair Bistro

6118 Medua Place, Montclair Village, (510) 482-8282

Chef Henry Vortriede's philosophy of his restaurant, Montclair Bistro, is Metrix Cuisine, which he finds is "a synergy between the food on the table, the art on the walls, and the ambience of the restaurant. The result is a feeling of comfort and harmony between the food and the surroundings." The Bistro's cuisine is Creative California with a French Flare and offers gourmet delicacies for even the most discriminating palate. The dining experience is enhanced with a full bar and more than 150 wines and Vintage Ports. Montclair Bistro offers lunch, dinner, Happy Hour and Sunday Brunch. Please visit our ad for hours of operation. Reservations are recommended but not required. Visit www.montclairbistro.com.

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1247 Solano Ave., Albany (510) 526-8663

Sophia Cafe is a tiny haven for Mideast food. Owner Moti Dagan makes entrees and baked goods with a personal touch. For dinner enjoy schnitzel, moussake (sliced eggplant dish with ground beef) or the cous cous plate. Finish with a delightful dessert made in-house. For a limited time, enjoy early bird specials for only \$9.95. Offer valid only with mention of ad from 5-9pm. Take out and catering menus available upon request. Open Sun-Fri 11-9pm.

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La Pinata 3 has been indulging the Bay Area since 1978 with authentic, delicious Mexican cuisine. In 2005, La Pinata 3 introduced their Taco Bar, offering authentic Mexican tacos prepared the old-fashioned way, with traditional ingredients. In addition to Pinata 3's impressive menu, including Albondigas (meat ball soup), traditional Mexican breakfasts, and the famous Whole Red Snapper, delectable homemade pastries (desserts) and after dinner drinks are not to be missed. Perhaps most impressive about La Pinata 3 is the popular Tequila Bar. Serving the largest variety of 100% Agave tequilas in Alameda, and perhaps the entire East Bay, the tequila bar at La Pinata 3 is guaranteed to turn you in to a return guest. La Pinata 3 is open daily from 7am to 3am, and Happy Hour is from 4-5pm M-F. Weekend Specials and a \$9.95 Sunday Brunch are also available. www.lapinata.com. (Look for La Pinata #6 opening mid-August in Concord with 2 tequila bars!)

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THE DINING GUIDE

Featured Menu

POULTRY

SPICY CHICKEN.....7.95
Chicken sautéed with a sweet curry sauce and green beans, topped with crispy basil leaves

PRAM CHICKEN.....7.95
Chicken sautéed with garlic, served on a bed of steamed vegetables, and topped with a peanut curry sauce

PRAM CHICKEN.....7.95
Chicken sautéed with garlic, served on a bed of steamed vegetables, and topped with a peanut curry sauce

SEAFOOD

PRAM SEAFOOD.....9.95
Shrimp, scallops, and squid sautéed with garlic, served on a bed of steamed vegetables, and topped with a peanut curry sauce

PRAM SA-WAN.....9.50
Shrimp and squid sautéed with a sweet and sour sauce, served with epicly fried green beans and onions

SPICY FRIED CATFISH

Fried fillet of catfish with a sweet curry sauce and green beans, topped with crispy basil leaves

VEGETARIAN

PAD THAI "J"

Rice noodles sautéed with tofu, eggs, bean sprouts, green onions, and ground peanuts

PRAM RAM TOFU

Fried tofu with garlic, served on a bed of steamed vegetables, and topped with a peanut curry sauce

GARLIC VEGETABLES

Seasonal assortment of vegetables sautéed with garlic, peppers, and oyster sauce

NOODLES & RICE

PAD THAI

Rice noodles sautéed with prawns, eggs, tofu, bean sprouts, green onions, and ground peanuts

REFRESHMENTS

THAI ICED TEA OR COFFEE

(These are pre-sweetened)

HOT TEA OR COFFEE

SOFT DRINKS

Coca-Cola, Diet Coke, Sprite, Pink Lemonade, Unsweetened Iced Tea

ORANGE JUICE OR MILK

MINERAL WATER

DESSERTS

Fried Banana with Coconut Ice Cream.....2.50

Ice Cream.....2.50

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Viva Voce Café

As a compliment to La Veranda Café in Clayton, CA, which has enjoyed a great reputation for four years strong, Viva Voce Café opened its doors three months ago in Montclair, and we are enjoying it a great deal. Viva Voce Café is an inviting restaurant with friendly service and a refreshing atmosphere - offering a well-diversified affordable menu that you can enjoy every evening, along with a variety of seafood and meat specials of the highest quality. As quoted by Diablo Magazine: "This is no spaghetti-and-red-sauce throwback. The quality of food sets it apart." Or about our homemade Gnocchi "I take an inventory of each little dumpling, as the parmesan cheese begins to melt, I eat all of them, then use my bread to wipe up every drop of sauce."

Café Enrico

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For fine Italian dining at its best, visit Café Enrico overlooking the beautiful Harbor Bay Lagoon. Full bar service features special cocktails daily with exceptional wine selections. From gourmet seafood plates to Old World pastas, chicken dishes, sandwiches and even a dieter's menu, Café Enrico truly offers something to please everyone. In fact, many guests dine in two and three times a week. House specialty steamers (Manila clams and fresh seafood cioppino) are not to be missed. Café Enrico is open daily. Sat & Sun Brunch is served until 3pm and Early Bird Specials (\$12.95) are served Mon-Fri until 6pm and Sat & Sun until 5pm. For Reservations, please call (510) 522-0129. MC, Visa, AME, handicap access. Casual attire. \$\$

Katsu Sushi

1465 Webster Street, Alameda, (510) 749-8461
West Alameda's newest restaurant, Katsu Sushi, invites guests to an upscale dining experience with classic simplicity. Chef Sang Kim prepares all dishes from scratch and seafood is brought in fresh, directly from Japan. The menu is extensive, ranging from an extraordinary selection of sushi and sashimi, Udon/Soba, Donburi (over rice dishes), to pasta and an impressive variety of sake. Architect Duke Lee has created a dramatic backdrop for guests, marrying modern art with traditional design elements. Attention to even the most minor aesthetic detail is also mirrored in the elegant presentation of Katsu's dishes, offerings that are as much a work of art to the palate as to the eye. Katsu is open for lunch Mon-Fri from 11:30am to 2:30pm and open for dinner Mon-Thurs & Sun from 5:30pm. Fri & Sat 5-10pm. Reservations recommended.

Pier 29 Waterfront Restaurant

MOVED TO NEW LOCATION

1148 Ballena Blvd., Alameda (510) 865-5088

Good food, friendly service, and comfortable atmosphere describe Pier 29 Waterfront Restaurant. The "Pier" offers an extensive menu featuring fresh seafood, Angus New York steak, prime rib, pasta, teriyaki ribs, daily specials, and much more. The theme in the kitchen is "good homestyle cooking." Brunch is served on weekends from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. and the popular early bird menu is featured daily. Every table has a view of the water and there is plenty of free parking. The Pier is open 7 days a week. New business hours: Sun, Thurs. 9 a.m. - 10 p.m., Fri. - Sat. 9 a.m. - 11 p.m. Breakfast - Lunch - Dinner. Dinner served 3 - 10 p.m.

Sushi House

2375 Shoreline Drive, Alameda (510) 865-0999

When it comes to sushi, one place on the island comes to mind. Come experience why locals & out-of-towners alike flock to Sushi House. Whether you're a fan of modern or traditional Japanese cuisine, Sushi House will delight your senses w/unique, award-winning sushi creations not found elsewhere on either side of the Bay. You've tried the rest. Now try the best! All seafood is delivered daily to ensure unrivaled quality & freshness. Showcasing these excellent beginnings are chef/owner James' own creations such as "Crazy Horse" - tuna, hamachi, salmon & avocado; "Crazy Monkey" - yellow tail, salmon, eel, tobiko and cucumber; & "Dynamite" - yellow tail, salmon, tuna & halibut deep fried w/house special sauce - spicy! Frequent Sushi House diners John & Sally Crittenden agreed that "James is a real artist & his sushi is the freshest we've ever tasted." Sushi House is open nonstop from 11 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. Sunday through Thursday & 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Fridays & Saturdays. Plenty of free parking. From an intimate date to a big celebration, Sushi House is the hip & trendy place to be in Alameda! AE MC VS \$\$

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891B Island Drive (Harbor Bay Island), Alameda (510) 521-4032

Family-owned El Caballo Mexican Restaurant has had a long-standing reputation for preparing delicious traditional dishes from scratch using nothing but the freshest ingredients of the highest quality. El Caballo is famous for their Especialidades De Mariscos (seafood specialties) including Paella Estilo Catalina, Cioppino Siete Madres, Enchiladas Cabo San Lucas, and many others. In addition to delicious seafood entrees, El Caballo offers an impressive menu of Mexican favorites to please every palate. The family and staff at El Caballo have made it their utmost priority to offer you, their guests, a pleasant and relaxing dining experience. You are invited to enjoy authentic Mexican dining with a view over beautiful Harbor Bay Lagoon.

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Billed as a "Simple Italian Restaurant" ZZA's may be modest but serves spectacularly tasty fare and is a fun, family-friendly restaurant. Be sure and order the whole Dungeness crab roasted in a brick oven, seasoned with cracked pepper, butter, fresh herbs and served over house-made trenette pasta for only \$32. ZZA's is affordable, friendly and comfortable and offers a mix of salads, pastas, calzones, and thin-crust individual pizzas; and much of the pasta is made by hand. They're also known for the huge ZZA's sign in back that flashes dancing lights - red and white, framed in green neon. It comes on whenever they feel like it - when somebody has a birthday, when somebody drops a dish and breaks it. The tradition is, one of the servers calls, "Lights, please," and the customers cheer and they clap. Your kids will love it, and you won't have to sacrifice your own tastes to indulge them. House specialties include Maiale, a Niman Ranch spice coated Porterhouse pork chop with apple beurre blanc mashed potatoes and snap peas or the Pesce del Giono A.Q. Lunch is served Tuesday through Sunday from 11 to 3pm; Dinner is Sunday through Thursday from 5 to 10pm and Friday and Saturdays from 5 to 11pm.

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NORTHERN CALIFORNIA BEST SELLERS

- 4. "Suite Française," by Irene Nemirovsky. (Knopf, \$25.)
- 5. "The Hard Way," by Lee Child. (Dellacorte, \$25.)
- 6. "Absurdistia," by Gary Shteyngart. (Random House, \$24.95.)
- 7. "Elements of Style," by Wendy Wasserstein. (Knopf, \$23.95.)
- 8. "The Debutante Divorcee," by Plum Sykes. (Miramax, \$23.95.)
- 9. "Beach Road," by James Patterson and Peter de Jonge. (Little, Brown, \$27.95.)
- 10. "Promise Me," by Harlan Coben. (Dutton, \$26.95.)

Nonfiction

- 1. "The Omnivore's Dilemma," by Michael Pollan. (Penguin, \$26.95.)
- 2. "Marley & Me," by John Grogan. (William Morrow, \$21.95.)
- 3. "Freakonomics," by Steven Levitt and Stephen Dubner. (William Morrow, \$25.95.)

PUBLIC NOTIFICATION

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING - BERKELEY CITY COUNCIL
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 2134 MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. WAY
WEST BERKELEY BOWL PROJECT, 920 HEINZ AVENUE
TUESDAY, JUNE 13 AT 7:00 P.M.

Description: The proposed project is located in West Berkeley, at the southwest corner of... and Ninth Street (see map below), and involves demolition of an existing industrial building and construction of a "full-service grocery marketplace," consisting of two buildings with a total area of 40,000 square feet, and a total of 91,060 square feet, on a site of 2.33 acres; project includes parking, ancillary office and storage space, food service, community room, and 211 off-street parking spaces.

Legislative Actions:
1. General Plan land use designation from "Manufacturing" to "Avenue Commercial" for the project portion of site, as shown in map below.

2. West Berkeley Plan land use designation from "Mixed Use/Light Industrial" to "General Commercial" for 1.9-acre portion of site, as shown in map below.

3. Official Zoning Map to reclassify 1.9-acre portion of site from MU-LI ("Mixed Use - Light Industrial") District to C-W ("West Berkeley Commercial") District, as shown in map below.

4. Amend MU-LI provisions (BMC Section 23E.80.030) to allow storage spaces to serve the project and directly accessible food products stores located outside the MU-LI District.

- Permits under Zoning Ordinance:**
- 1. Permit to demolish existing main building;
 - 2. Permit to allow parking within 20 feet of secondary street frontage (Ninth St.);
 - 3. Permit to establish retail food products store (contingent upon Zoning reclassification from MU-LI to C-W);
 - 4. Permit to establish community center (contingent upon Zoning reclassification from MU-LI to C-W);
 - 5. Permit to allow sales of beer and wine;
 - 6. Permit to establish a quick service restaurant;
 - 7. Permit to construct more than 5,000 square feet of gross floor area; and
 - 8. Permit to allow storage of goods for a continuous and directly accessible retail space, contingent upon MU-LI text amendment allowing storage for contiguous food product stores located outside the MU-LI District)

Review Status: Environmental Impact Report (EIR) prepared pursuant to Article 7 of the Guidelines. Public comment periods for EIR ran from October 7 to November 21, 2005, and from April 24 to April 24, 2006.

Information: Please contact Aaron Sage, Associate Planner at (510) 981-7410 or a.sage@berkeley.ca.us. All project materials may be viewed at the Permit Service Center (Zoning Department) 2180 Milvia Street, during normal office hours. The EIR, prior staff reports, project plans, and documents are available at <http://www.ci.berkeley.ca.us/planning/landuse/Heinz/default.htm>.

Figure 1. Proposed General Plan, West Berkeley Plan and Zoning Map Amendments



The areas designated "C-W" and "MU-LI" above correspond to "Avenue Commercial" and "Manufacturing," respectively, on the General Plan Land Use Diagram (Fig. 4), and to "General Commercial" and "Mixed Use/Light Industrial," respectively, on the West Berkeley Plan Land Use Diagram (p. 38a).

Persons wishing to speak at the public hearing may receive a speaker card from the City Clerk at the City Clerk's Office, 2134 Martin Luther King Jr. Way, Berkeley, CA 94704, or by calling the City Clerk at (510) 981-6900. Written comments should be submitted directly to the City Clerk, 2180 Milvia Street, Berkeley, CA 94704, in order to be included in the agenda packet. Comments received no later than Friday, June 2, 2006 will be included in Council agenda packets. Comments received after that date will be submitted to Council as supplemental communications at the meeting. For further information, call Sara T. Cox, City Clerk, 981-6900. FAX: (510) 981-6901. TDD: (510) 981-6903.

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Films

FROM PAGE C10

The goal of the festival and the sponsoring group, the Corporation on Disabilities and Telecommunication, is to convey the wide range and variety of people with disabilities. The organization began in Los Angeles in the 1980s to promote hiring of disabled performers, and telling stories from the disabled perspective, in the entertainment industry. The film festival moved to Berkeley five years ago.

"I suppose when I became disabled I was more aware of the way the disabled were represented," Yasumoto says. "I graduated from Cal in 1992 with a degree in social welfare and thought I wanted to be a teacher or counselor. But then I shared a taxi ride with a woman involved with the festival, and I thought it would be a good way to help change the image of people with disabilities."

SUPERFEST SCHEDULE

Saturday — "Are the Kids Alright?" (U.S.), 12:30 p.m.; "The Man Who Couldn't Dance" (New Zealand), 1:40 p.m.; "39 Pounds of Love" (U.S.), 2 p.m.; "Georgian Song" (Georgia), 3:30 p.m.; "The Third Parent" (U.S.), 3:40 p.m.; "I'm Spazticus" (U.K.), 3:50 p.m.; "Wood Diary" (U.S.), 4:30 p.m.

Sunday — "Braindamad" (U.S.), 12:30 p.m.; "One Strong Arm" (U.S.), 1:35 p.m.; "Escape Velocity" (U.S.), 2 p.m.; "Abnormally Funny People" (U.K.), 2:40 p.m.; "Equilibrium" (U.S.), 3:55 p.m.; "About Love" (Russia), 3:45 p.m.; "Nectar" (U.K.), 4:20 p.m.; "Wood Diary" (U.S.), 4:40 p.m.; filmmakers' reception and awards ceremony, 6-9 p.m.

The organization that sponsors Superfest is in the midst of changing its name to a more lively "Culture! Disability! Talent!" In addition to the festival, it focuses on counteracting disabled stereotypes — beyond per-

formances in films and television.

"Just as in any other population," Yasumoto says, "we feel that when people with disabilities are in the decision-making process, we get our first-person voices out there, get our stories told."

Yasumoto and Cheryl Wade, a filmmaker who is a member of the festival's board of directors, want Superfest to explore as much variety as Jewish, Asian-American and gay and lesbian film festivals.

Mainstream audiences and media have to be willing to approach the subject directly, Wade says. "People are a little nervous about a production like 'I'm Spazticus,' (wondering) 'Is it OK to laugh at this?' It's the way we've been brought up — don't stare, don't point," she says. "Even some of us who are disabled have assumptions about other people with disabilities."

Reach Robert Taylor at 925-977-8428 or rtaylor@cctimes.com.

6 Degrees

FROM PAGE C10

Brofferio and Bertolet bought everything in the space from its former tenant, the Asian fusion Albany Bistro. That included the chairs and the light sconces (though the walls behind them are now a dark, sensuous red) and the waiters. Well, they didn't exactly buy the waiters, but there was a stipulation that both front- and back-of-the-house staffs keep their jobs.

It also included retired owner King Wong's recipes. That's true of Pistachio Crusted Rack of Lamb (\$23) and a small plate, Green Goddess Avocado (\$6.50). The menu describes the avocado dish as a "crispy surprise," but spoils that surprise by letting you know it's deep-fried. The greasiness, breaded avocado wedges are pretty good — the taste reminds you of the fried mushrooms you'd hope to get at some really, really good Dairy Queen, and the texture is just short of unctuous, smooth and a little watery. Squiggles of herby, mustardy mayonnaise taste like real olive oil (Brofferio's originally from Milan), with a most un-DQ-like stringency and perfume.

As a signature starter it's not bad, though nearby Rivoli doesn't have to worry that its portobello fritters — as much a tradition on this street as

neighborhood drivers' stopping for pedestrians who are anywhere near a crosswalk — have any serious competition for best local fried thing.

Another small plate, a Trio of Crostini (\$5), is as lackluster as a tray of hors d'oeuvres from a struggling caterer. The provolone slices on grilled bread are too uninteresting to stand alone, and someone should have noticed that the tomato slices posed between fresh mozzarella and big pieces of basil were simply too unripe to send out to the dining room. Bread packed with crumbled gorgonzola and crowned with slices of crisp pear is the best of the three, but a winner only by default.

The Seared Cocktail Scallops (\$9) look stylish — darkly grilled discs lined up on a long, narrow platter, in swirly pools of liquid cucumber salsa and blood orange gastrique. There's a spoonful of diced, marinated shallots on each scallop, and while the scallops themselves are fresh and moist, they're so charred, they taste acid. By the second one, you're looking for relief that the mildly sweet, mildly tart sauces don't provide.

A special entree, Veal Scallopini (\$19), has a tasty, cornstarch-thickened sauce spiked with vinegar and Marsala, a pile of crisp snow peas and delicious slivers of darkly roasted potato. But the veal slices are thick and

clumsy — the kitchen hasn't pounded them nearly as thin as they should be — and the sauce can't save them.

Amateurish service makes the food seem even less satisfying. It takes nearly 15 minutes for the server to acknowledge us, though he's got only half a dozen tables and he walks past us several times. Our first dishes arrive before the cocktails do (we have to ask about the cocktails when he drops the food: "Yeah, they're coming," he tells us).

It takes even longer for a glass of wine to arrive — we're a third of the way through our second course before we get it, and again we've had to ask. "Should be up anytime," he says. Good to know.

Bertolet drops by to ask us how everything is. We tell her about the wine; her face turns grave, and she apologizes. Before we know it, the bartender is standing at our table, stammering an embarrassed apology of his own. It's an awkward resolution, and a bad one. It's the server who's responsible for the limping pace of our meal, not the bartender, who sounds sincerely chagrined.

At 6 Degrees, nothing quite succeeds like lack of success — when it comes with enough sincerity, anyway.

Reach East Bay food writer John Birdsall at jwbirdsall@sbcglobal.net.

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Friday, June 2, 2006



J.B. ALDERMAN
On DVDs

Belgium 'Killer' an action thriller

THE MEMORY OF A KILLER

Like Belgium beer, which packs a deceptive punch with its high alcohol content, "Killer" is a strong film that leaves you a bit dizzy at the end. A Belgium film with English subtitles, you might confuse this DVD for a straightforward cops-and-robbers film. That would be a mistake. Jan Decler plays an aging assassin suffering from the early stages of Alzheimer's, along with a strong case of regret over his chosen career. These unusual twists makes this taught thriller stand out from the pack, and gives it an intellectual air that few films involving car chases can ever claim. This is an intense film, with a high body count and some nasty characters, so watch it after the kids have gone to bed. Mature teens will enjoy it, but most seniors are likely to be put off by the bloodletting. (R: violence, sex) 2 hours and 3 minutes.

Ratings (out of 4 stars):

Overall: 3 stars

Kids: N/A star

Teens: 3 stars

Adults: 3 stars

Seniors: 2 stars

Should you rent it? Yes — A

foreign film with an action-packed kick.

CHEAPER BY THE DOZEN

This film is atrocious. "Cheaper by the Dozen 1" was bad enough, but this latest installment is like dumping new toxic sludge on an existing Superfund site. Steve Martin stars as the fumbling dad at the head of a family with 12 kids. They go to the old summerhouse by the lake, where they encounter their old macho nemesis, played by Eugene Levy. The two families battle it out in a camp olympics. I'm not making this up. This is what some Hollywood lunatic agreed to commit to film and then burn on DVDs. Eugene Levy as a tough guy? The smog must have finally eroded the few remaining brain cells of the folks who control our entertainment density. Fight the power. Don't rent this DVD. (PG: crude humor and mild language) 1 hour and 34 minutes.

Ratings (out of 4 stars):

Overall: ½ star

Kids: 1½ stars

Teens: ½ star

Adults: ½ star

Seniors: 0 stars

Should you rent it? No —

Sticking a dead fish in your DVD player would bring more enjoyment than this film.

HOODWINKED

A clever update on the well-known fairy tale of Little Red Riding Hood, this animated DVD is a nice choice for your family movie night. Anne Hathaway voices Red Riding Hood, and we see the familiar story played out from the differing perspectives of all of the characters. If you like the old cartoon "Fractured Fairy Tales" from the "Rocky and Bullwinkle" TV series, then "Hoodwinked" is right up your alley. It's funny and irreverent, without being crude. Some cartoon violence and moments of peril make this a good choice for children 6 and older. (PG: mild violence) 1 hour and 20 minutes.

Ratings (out of 4 stars):

Overall: 3 stars

Kids: 3½ stars

Teens: 2½ stars

Adults: 2½ stars

Seniors: 2½ stars

Should you rent it? Yes — A

fun DVD you'll enjoy watching with your kids.

J.B. Alderman lives in Piedmont and can be reached at jason@alderman.net or via www.PhdDVD.com.

Film festival counteracts stereotypes

By Robert Taylor
STAFF WRITER

LIANE YASUMOTO knows it's tough attracting a mainstream audience to a disability film festival, one that opens with a documentary about the harsh reality of the mental health system in Texas.

But three hours later on the program Saturday at La Pena Cultural Center in Berkeley, up pops "I'm Spazticus." It's a British short, described as "a politically incorrect, laugh-out-loud punk'd-style television special with disabled pranksters making fun of the assumptions and prejudices of an unsuspecting public."

"It's really, really funny," says Yasumoto, 38, the festival director who has been disabled since a car accident left her with a spinal cord injury 19 years ago.

"These films aren't preachy, all of them aren't depressing, and like any other festival, there's a little something for everyone," says Yasumoto, who lives in Berkeley.

The 26th Superfest will offer films ranging in length from four to 74 minutes on Saturday and Sunday afternoon. They include everything from "Wood Diary," the festival's top prizewinner, a dreamlike portrait of a rural artist

FILM FESTIVAL PREVIEW

■ **WHAT:** Superfest International Disability Film Festival

■ **WHERE:** La Pena Cultural Center, 3105 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley

■ **WHEN:** Screenings 12:30-5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday; filmmakers' reception, 6-9 p.m. Sunday

■ **HOW MUCH:** \$5-\$20 per day, sliding scale; tickets available at the door. Reception is free.

■ **CONTACT:** 510-845-5576, www.culturedisabilitytalent.org.

with a disability, to "About Love," which features interviews with Moscow schoolchildren about their love lives.

"Nectar" is the story of a British champion swimmer early in the 20th century, while "One Strong Arm" is about a teenager in California's Central Valley who becomes an arm-wrestling contender. "The Man Who Couldn't Dance," from New Zealand, is an 11-minute short about a man with no legs and his ballroom dancing aspirations. The festival likens it to a Monty Python sketch.

Audiences might be wary, says



LIANE YASUMOTO, director of "Superfest," says the films "break the ice. You're laughing with people, not at people."

Yasumoto, of films such as "Abnormally Funny People," a documentary about five comedians with disabilities preparing for the demanding Edinburgh Fringe Festival in Scotland.

"These are the kinds of films that are actually used for disability awareness training," Yasumoto says. "They break the ice. You're laughing with people, not at people. The performers themselves are bringing in humor about their own disabilities, their life stories."

See FILMS, Page C9



6 DEGREES ON SOLANO features cocktails, entrees and small plates, too. Shown here: the Trio of Crostini.

Eat, drink & welcome to the neighborhood

By John Birdsall
CORRESPONDENT

You've got to love a restaurant that prices its cocktails as cheap as iced tea. At 6 Degrees on Solano in Albany, the House 6 Cosmo costs \$6 — for two. The server sets down two lime-garnished empty glasses and a sweating stainless-steel cocktail shaker. He fills your glasses and, like a milkshake in an old-fashioned diner, it's all yours. Feel free to suck it down and top off your glass at your own desperate pace.

It's things like bottomless pink cocktails that show 6 Degrees on Solano's willingness to please. Indeed, owners Massimo Brofferio and Bebe Bertolo launched their restaurant with the conscientiousness of neighbors organizing a block party in North Berkeley. As they say around these parts — at school board meetings and MoveOn.org house parties — they embraced consensus.

That meant inviting constructive criticism. "That first week we didn't charge," says Brofferio of the restaurant's opening in January. But the food wasn't exactly free: Diners at 6 Degrees on Solano had to write down what they thought about it. "We laid out all the notes on the floor," Brofferio recalls. "Some of the dishes we took completely off the menu. Some just needed minor tweaks."

It looks like the consensus approach has paid off. Four months after opening night, the Albany restaurant seems to have a devoted circle of customers, like the family who comes in and announces to Bertolo that they're here to celebrate their son finishing law school. You get the feeling customers like that have taken ownership of the place.

Maybe it's the name. Brofferio studied philosophy and political science at Cal before he started cooking, and the theory of six degrees — that humans everywhere are separated by half a dozen acquaintances — is a personal manifesto. It suggests the inescapable nature of community, and by juxtaposition, the power of food to bring people together.

Or maybe it's cheap drinks that bring people together. Anyway, some of the prices (like the \$6 lunch specials, such as a roast chicken breast with fries and sautéed vegetables) are so low, you wonder how Brofferio and Bertolo can possibly be making money.

The menu's elastic, with enough cocktails and small plates to serve as a place to hang out after work (like Cesar in Berkeley), and enough entrees to compete with the slightly-more-than-casual nearby bistros Rivoli and Bendeau.

See 6 DEGREES, Page C9

6 DEGREES ON SOLANO



(overall value rating of our visit; out of a possible 5)

FOOD

REVIEW VISIT ON MAY 17

■ **CUISINE:** California-Mediterranean with small-plates options.

■ **PRICES:** \$\$\$ (dinner entrees \$13-\$22)

■ **FOOD COST (before tax and tip):** \$45.05; three small plates, one entree, one dessert.

■ **HOME RUN:** Green Goddess Avocado.

■ **STRIKEOUT:** Trio of Crostini.

■ **VEGETARIAN:** Salads and half a dozen small plates, vegetable kabobs and a sprawling grilled veggie plate.

■ **FREEBIES:** Bread from Metropolis Bakery with olive oil for dipping.

■ **BEVERAGES:** Full bar emphasizing inexpensive specialty cocktails (most are \$6) and wines by the glass.

■ **DESSERTS:** Made in-house. The Assortment of Cookies and Cream (\$6) brings a scoop of vanilla ice cream, hot fudge sauce and more

than a dozen cookies. Soft biscotti are nice.

★★★

(Service and ambience rating out of a possible 5)

DETAILS

■ **WHERE:** 1403 Solano Ave. (near Carmel), Albany.

■ **HOURS:** Lunch 11:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Tuesdays-Fridays; dinner 5:30-9:30 p.m. Tuesdays-Sundays, 5:30-11 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays.

■ **CONTACT:** 510-528-1237; sixdegrees6.com.

■ **RESERVATIONS:** Any size party.

■ **NOISE LEVEL:** Moderate.

■ **SERVICE POINT:** Can seem amateurish.

■ **PARKING:** Free on the street.

■ **DINING ALONE:** Good — the dining room is big, with plenty of room to feel like you've got your own space.

■ **SPECIAL AREA:** None.

■ **KIDS:** Good — a flexible menu and room to stretch out.

■ **PRIVATE PARTIES:** Up to 50 in half of the dining room, which can be closed off with heavy curtains.

■ **DATE OPENED:** Jan. 19.

■ **PRINCIPALS:** Massimo Brofferio, owner and chef; Bebe Bertolo, owner and dining room manager.

SUSAN KUCHAR
On the Arts

CD to benefit Richmond

SING OUT, RICHMOND

Her coworkers at the Workforce Investment Act knew Malinda Coker — but it wasn't until she realized she could sing.

"I was blown away," Mike Warwick, head of Richmond Works, said. Warwick composed and recorded a couple of songs. Then, other people showed up, singing. The little gathering grew into a full-blown concert.

A group of volunteers, Contra Costa College music director Wayne O'Connell, teared more than a few tears recording, mixing and editing to produce "The Richmond Sings Out."

The CD showcases voices, including the Costa College Gospel and Conscience, and by McKinley (Oakland) who, when he's not hanging out, moonlighting as a student of the college.

Warwick is taking the bucks and Barnes & Noble about carrying the CD benefit the Richmond Youth Jobs Program. The summer jobs program is meaningful work for 120 youths, who each will receive \$1,000 for their work.

City businesses have summer jobs to donate funds, and the also gets support from The Jobs Program by the paperwork, payroll and places them with its such as UC Berkeley's Terrestrial Project, which on wetlands restoration the city of Richmond's Rec Department.

You can help out by the \$17.95 CD at the Richmond Business Office, 1401 Marina Way, Richmond Chamber of Commerce office at 3855 Alameda Ave.; or on the www.RichmondWorks.com information about the program, call 510-528-1237.

OH, OLIVER! can relate to Oliver who wanted MORE! get what it's like to be a bit more bread. bly not the lucky kid to go to the Pinole Playhouse of "Oliver!" But the impetuous rhyme "Glorious Food" and "Pick a Pocket or Two."

The show opens at 7 p.m. and runs Friday and Saturday evenings, with Sunday matinees through Saturday at the Pinole Community house, 601 Tennen Pinole. Tickets are \$10 admission, \$14 for seniors and seniors. For more call 510-724-3689.

O RAMAYANA! The dance company presents original interpretations of Indian classical music in its short production, "Lost Tales," from 1000 Ramayana.

NATYA merges forms of classical Indian dance and artistry, and the production combines the classical dance traditions of natyam, Kathak and Bharatanatyam to an eclectic mix of Carnatic jazz and rhythms, and spoken-word poetry.

Most variations of the ancient Indian epic — the Ramayana — are more than 2,000 years old. NATYA's production, "Lost Tales," weaves together the forgotten voices of the forgotten heroes and renders them into vivid human beings. The Ramayana reworks the adventures of Lord Rama, beautiful and faithful, envisioning them in modern characters and modern settings.

You've got just one to catch "Lost Tales" in East Bay. It plays at the Morgan, 2640 College Ave., Berkeley. Tickets are \$15 advance or \$12 at the door. For more call 510-338-4534 or ramayana@natya.org or www.natya.org.

Clue us in! E-mail tips and trips to skas.com.

Friday Auto Plus

cars.com

Supplement to The Montclair, The Piedmonter, The Berkeley Voice, The Journal, The Alameda Journal

Friday, June 2, 2006

Section D

The Mazda Tribute is not the usual sport utility vehicle

By TOM KEANE

MOTOR MATTERS
This sport utility vehicle has the temperament of a sports car. The ease of making great handling moves is the SUV's

secret. The Mazda designers and engineers wanted to keep their mission "fun" speed in the picture, so the character of the Tribute to SUV capability and sports car

advantage of an SUV is the interior and the convenience of cargo. The Tribute is very capable in these areas, with the added benefit of a tie-down cargo roof rack. The amount of storage space behind the rear seat is, if needed, I could have easily folded 60/40 rear seatbacks for more cargo versatility.

The advantage of an SUV is being high in the driver's seat for visibility. Some SUVs are big and require extra effort to get into the seat. That was not the case with the Tribute. It was easy to board and the seat was very comfortable. With its 16-inch, five-spoke wheels, I felt comfortable driving off-road for light off-roading, despite my 4WD tester had a ground clearance of 8.4 inches.

Benefits from Mazda's inspired sports cars, including one of the best, the Miata. I noticed right away that the Tribute tester how the sporty Tribute me to accelerate very quickly. The Tribute has rack-and-pinion steering, which generates a precise response to the wheel. This is characteristic of a sports car.

The best part is the EPA mileage rating. My tester with 4WD achieved 19 miles per gallon city and 23 mpg highway. Again, that's good mileage for a four-wheel drive SUV that costs \$23,750. It didn't come with a load of options, nor were they needed.

I was told that the unibody construction is not only very rigid but also exceptionally strong. The Tribute has Triple H construction



MOTOR MATTERS



THE TRIBUTE HANDLES

well, is easy to park and comfortable. The driver's seat offers six-way power, top left. There's plenty of storage space behind the rear seat, and if needed, the split-fold 60/40 rear seatbacks provide more cargo versatility, bottom left.



KEANE ON WHEELS

Mazda says the engine on the Tribute is a retuned version of the high-performance engine on the Mazda6 sports sedan. My tester was equipped with the 3.0-liter V6, which produced 200 horsepower at 6,000 rpm and 193 pounds-foot of torque at 4,850 rpm. The engine on the base model Tribute is a 2.3-liter four-cylinder which generates 153 horsepower and 152 pounds-foot of torque.

The best part is the EPA mileage rating. My tester with 4WD achieved 19 miles per gallon city and 23 mpg highway. Again, that's good mileage for a four-wheel drive SUV that costs \$23,750. It didn't come with a load of options, nor were they needed.

I was told that the unibody construction is not only very rigid but also exceptionally strong. The Tribute has Triple H construction

MAZDA TRIBUTE

Vehicle Type	Five-passenger, four-wheel drive sport utility vehicle
Suggested Retail	\$23,200
Price As Tested	\$23,750
Engine Type	24-valve DOHC V6 w/SMPFI
Horsepower	200 @ 6,000 rpm
Torque	193 @ 4,850 rpm
Transmission	Four-speed automatic
Wheelbase	103 inches
Height	70 inches
Curb Weight	3,490 pounds
Fuel Capacity	17 gallons
Mileage	City/highway 19/23

that is designed to absorb and redirect crash energy away from the passenger cabin. The Triple H refers to the H-shaped structure in the sides, floor and roof. This SUV has anti-lock brakes, electronic brakeforce distribution and advanced

front airbags that use various sensors to deploy. The fact is, the more I researched, the more surprised I became concerning all the safety features, which were unexpected of an SUV in this price range.

The Tribute didn't lack interior ameni-

ties. I enjoyed an AM/FM stereo with in-dash six-disc CD changer and a 190-watt seven-speaker system. Nor did I feel short-changed with the six-way power on the driver's seat. The Tribute handles well, is easy park and quite comfortable but I still don't know how to categorize this vehicle: SUV or sports car.

INSIDE

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1969 Volkswagen Karmann Ghia is a real keeper

BY VERN PARKER
MOTOR MATTERS

"It kind of fell in my lap," Robert Bruton says when reminiscing about his 1969 Volkswagen Karmann Ghia.

He met the owner of the car in the Navy in Alameda, Calif., where they were stationed in 1964. The owner was about to be discharged and wanted \$2,500 for the then 25-year-old car. The two sailors agreed that if the car wasn't sold by the time he left, Bruton would buy it for \$1,000. As it turned out he got the car for \$800.

"I practically had it handed to me," he says.

Bruton is no stranger to Volkswagens. During his high school years in Florida he had three of them, a 1967, 1968 and a 1969 Volkswagen. It was in those formative years that he learned to keep

CLASSIC CLASSICS

a spare throttle cable, V-belt, fuses and basic tools with the cars.

"It needed lots of tender loving care," Bruton recalls. The engine ran but was very sluggish, Bruton says, so he adjusted the valves, changed the oil and gave it a tune-up. That effort seemed to bring the sporty-looking VW back to life.

"Then I buffed the faded paint and brought the color back to a shiny faded red," he says.

"The odometer read about 20,000 miles, so I assumed it had 120,000 miles because of the age of the car," Bruton explains. When it was put on a lift in order for Bruton to check out the floor pan, a typical rust-problem area for Volk-

swagen, he found it to be clean with no scratches or rust.

Bruton telephoned the dealership where the car was sold new. He says, "They told me it was wrecked in 1974 and stored in the original owner's garage for about 12 or 13 years." It was then sold back to the dealer who fixed the body and sold it to Bruton's Navy friend in 1988, who only drove it around the naval facility. That's when Bruton realized the low mileage on the car was actual and what a wonderful find his Karmann Ghia actually was.

Bruton knew that he had a great Ghia on his hands but the paint and interior needed lots of work. In 2005 Bruton had four months of work and some extra money burning a hole in his pocket. A friend had just opened SBF, an Oakland paint shop specializing in motorcycles.

Bruton convinced him that his Karmann Ghia was almost like a motorcycle. His friend agreed to do the job if Bruton would contribute labor — lots of labor.

"I took the car apart," Bruton says, "removed the glass, interior and exterior hardware and towed the body to the SBF shop."

Bruton worked every day with the shop owner, learning how to fix dents with minimal body putty shaping and a little bit of fabrication on the front end.

"After about a month of every day sanding, priming and sanding again we painted, clear-coated and it came out beautiful," a relieved Bruton says. The next craftsman to give Bruton a hand with his Ghia owns Foss Upholstery in Alameda. He loaned Bruton a spot in his shop where he could put his car back to-

gether, along with installing the white headliner and new glass.

"He gave me great tips along the way to keep me from scratching the fresh paint," Bruton says.

Before replacing all the brightwork on the car, Bruton endlessly polished the stainless steel trim and chrome. He says most people think the bumpers have been replated.

Before the restoration Bruton experienced a broken belt and cracked the engine block. A \$200 replacement engine proved to be worth what he paid.

His beautiful Karmann Ghia now has an air-cooled 1776 cc motor linked to a four-speed Volkswagen microbus transmission. A single barrel carburetor, capped by an oil bath air cleaner, feeds fuel to the rear engine with original pea shooter exhaust pipes. Bruton reports mileage

of about 18 miles per city and 25 on the highway.

At the front of the swagons is the trunk where the spare wheel is stored. The fluid is sprayed onto the back of the spare tire in the spare tire.

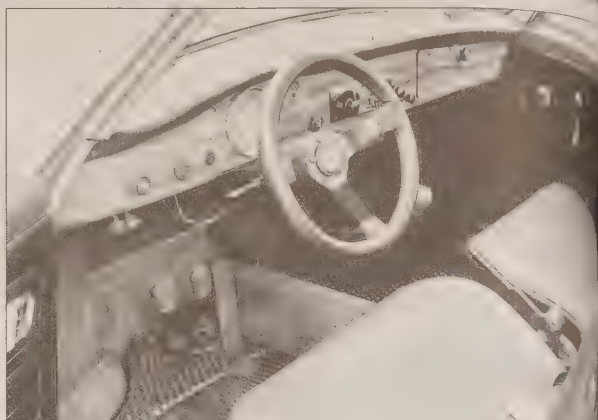
Bruton is a full-time serviceman at San Francisco Air Force Base. He is a Karmann Ghia enthusiast and does his own work.

The odometer reads 108,000 miles. Bruton says he has never let go of it yet and he never will.

For your car to be the subject of the Classic Classics column, send a photo (frontal view), brief details and photo of Vern Parker, 2221 Alameda, Vienna, VA 22181. Only good quality will be con-



ROBERT BRUTON SAYS of his Karmann Ghia, "I haven't let go of it yet and I never will."



No way is your repair shop trying to rip you

BY JUNIOR DAMATO
MOTOR MATTERS

Dear Doctor: The "check engine" light illuminated on my son's 2001 Nissan with 40,000 miles. The repair shop said the problem was the catalytic converter and they ordered a replacement. The shop owner said they were sent the wrong converter and we would have to return another day. The shop ofice had a sign on the wall stating that catalytic converters have a manufacturer warranty of 8 years/80,000 miles. I asked the owner if this would apply to the Nissan and he said it may and suggested I contact the dealer, which I did. The converter was covered at no charge. Was my long-time repair shop trying to rip me off? Why didn't he tell us about the warranty? — John

Dear John: If the shop was try-

AUTO DOCTOR

ing to rip you off, they would not have a sign in the office. Secondly, there are many things on shop owners' minds. They might not recall the things that are displayed in their own office. A shop does not stay in business long if they are ripping customers off.

Dear Doctor: For five years, I have been driving the same way to work in my Volvo S70, Chrysler Sebring and loaner cars. The mileage has always been 36.5 each way. A year ago I purchased an Acura MDX. My commuting mileage went from 36.5 to 37.1 miles. What are the speedometer and mileage tolerances allowed by the manufacturers? Would this mean the speedometer

reads incorrectly? — Martin

Dear Martin: You are not alone with this complaint. I hear it often, along with dipstick levels being incorrect. As for speedometer and odometer tolerance requirements, as long as the speedometer does not register a slower speed than that of actual travel, they can read up to 6 mph or 5 percent faster than the vehicle is actually traveling and it is considered acceptable.

Dear Doctor: How long do belts and hoses last? I own a 1997 Toyota Corolla with 44,000 miles. Can the belts and hoses wait until I replace the timing belt at 60,000 miles? — Arlene

Dear Arlene: Belt and hose replacement will vary by make and model, driving conditions and geographic location. Fan belts used to require replacement every two

years, but with today's serpentine belt design and automatic tensioners, belts are lasting three years-plus. Radiator hoses are also lasting much longer.

Dear Doctor: I own a 1998 Ford Explorer 4x4 V6 with an automatic transmission. There is a squeak coming from the front axle area at low speeds. I am sure it's there at higher speeds as well. I was in the shop for a brake job and the noise was still there. A friend has a 1999 Explorer with the squeaking noise. Any suggestions would be appreciated. — Gerald

Dear Gerald: Many of my customers own Ford Explorers and none has squeaking from the front end. Take notice of when the squeak occurs. Does the vehicle have to be moving? If so, this indicates something in the drive-

train, such as a universal drive joint. If you can get the noise standing still while moving the steering wheel back and forth, look at the tie rods and ball joints.

Dear Doctor: I live in New York and own a 2005 Infiniti G35 coupe with current mileage at 7,000 miles. It developed a ticking sound coming from the front end. I took it to the dealer for evaluation. They said the problem was the front tires and I should replace them. I went to another dealership and they said I must have hit something and to replace both front tires and get an alignment. Could this be true? — Gregg

Dear Gregg: Your car has high performance, low-profile tires that are subject to damage from hitting potholes, etc. Driving in New York, I'm sure you have hit your share of potholes. These potholes will damage the tires and alloy rims. I would suggest going to an independent shop or tire store for their opinion.

Dear Doctor: I own a San Maxima with 82,000 miles. When I try to start the car, it sits overnight or 6-8 hours to keep my foot on the brake for 5-10 seconds. After that, it starts. What are your thoughts?

Dear Marc: There is a (#NTB97-057) recall for 1997 Maximas built between 1996. If all computer components are operating properly, then the problem is the ECM (computer). The sensor and fuel pressure are attempting to start cold and condemning the pump.

Dear Doctor: What are the differences between synthetic oils and mineral oils? I should avoid any that I should avoid. **Dear Ed:** As long as you have the main brand, meet or exceed the manufacturer's specifications you will be fine. Send questions to 303 Court Circle, Lakeland, Fla. 33509.

Vacation drives bring families closer together

BY MICHELLE KREBS
MOTOR MATTERS

At a rest stop on the New York State Thruway during our trip from Detroit to Syracuse, we witnessed a scene that resembled one from the movie "National Lampoon's Vacation." A family was crammed amidst their belongings in a Ford Country Squire station wagon.

Referring to the movie starring Chevy Chase, my 18-year-old daughter joked with me, "The only thing they're missing is the dead grandma on the roof."

The Country Squire with the fake wood paneling looked out of place and time (in fact, production of the vehicle ended in 1991), and was a far cry from the car we were test driving, the 2006 Dodge Caliber. The new small vehicle from Chrysler has a refrigerated glove-

SHE'S FREEWHEELING

box — perfect for chilling our water bottles — and for our entertainment pleasure a built-in plug for an iPod, Sirius Satellite Radio and fold-down speakers in the rear hatch, ideal for tailgate parties.

Whatever the mode of transportation, summer road trips are a great way to catch-up and connect with family and friends. Indeed, millions of Americans will take to the roadways this summer, beginning on Memorial Day weekend.

My therapist friends, Jesse and Melva Johnson, founders of The Johnson Relationship Institute in Royal Oak, Mich., which educates and counsels people on improving their relationships, gave me

some tips for how to get the most from road trips. When their now-grown sons were young, they took many long road trips.

"Communication and discussion about the trip should begin far in advance of getting in the car," says Johnson. "It's helpful to talk about the trip in terms of what each person wants to experience and what each person fantasizes is the dream vacation."

The Johnson family assigned each person to research an area along their trip route, from the geographic terrain to history. As they passed through the area, the family member delivered a report on what he or she learned. "In addition to sharing information, each person talked about what impressed them the most about what they had learned," says Johnson.

A recent Internet search turned up hundreds of games to play in the car. A good site is www.momsmilvan.com, which boasts 101 car travel games and road trip ideas, such as Bingo license plate, I Spy, I'm Going on a Picnic, 20 Questions. The Johnsons suggest creating your own 20 Questions by asking an open-ended question and having each person in the car share an experience. Such questions could include: What was your happiest moment? What was your saddest memory? What are your greatest accomplishments? Your most embarrassing moment? When and with whom was your first kiss? Who was your first boyfriend or girlfriend? Who inspires you? What's your favorite memory of a trip?

"Lots of times kids then will ask mom or dad more about their childhood experience, and when parents and children do this, it helps normalize the parents and make them real," says Johnson. Since my children and I live in Detroit, far from relatives in New York or Indiana, we make frequent road trips. As we back out of the driveway, I mark our departure by taking a deep breath and stating in a sing-song voice, "Now we're on vacation."

When my kids were small, I stuffed backpacks with their favorite items, such as their beloved bunny and blanket, as well as toys, games and books. I recall being so desperate to entertain them that I once created a puppet by using lipstick and eyeliner from my purse to paint lips and eyes on my hand.

As they got older, they loaded their own backpacks with video games, books, magazines and crafts. On one of their favorite trips through Virginia, they took Polaroid snapshots, later pasting them into their scrapbooks.

On camping trips to northern Michigan, we listened to Harry Potter books. We've listened to songs aloud to us in the car. I turn from Syracuse to my daughter read books from the class, which generated discussion about possible and previously unknown.

When they were young, they played show tunes like singing-alongs. More recently, we take turns playing favorite music — songs that were not always my favorite — provided discussion about artists and why they liked particular music. On a trip to Montreal, my daughter and I both loved the music we both loved (Grateful Dead), which became regular on the road again this summer. To reach Michelle Krebs, e-mail to michellek@hills.com.

All you need to know about the Jaguar Wine Country Classic

INFINEON RACEWAY

The power and grace of vintage cars will return to Infineon Raceway, June 3-4.

What: Nearly 300 vintage cars, some dating as far back as 1915, will grace Infineon Raceway for a weekend of racing at the 20th annual Jaguar Wine Country Vintage Car Races, presented by Comcast.

Where: Infineon Raceway, Highway 37 and 121, Sonoma (800-870-RACE).

When: June 3-4.

Featured: The featured marque for this 20th anniversary of the Wine Country Classic will be Trans-Am. More than 40 muscle machines are expected from all over the West Coast, including classics like Ford Mustang, Chevrolet Camaro, Dodge Challenger and more.

Schedule: Saturday: Practice (all groups), 8:10-11:50 a.m., Qualifying (all groups), 1-5 p.m. Sunday: Warm-up (all groups), 8:30-11:30 a.m., Main events (all groups), 12:40-4:30 p.m.

Circuit: 12-turn, 2.52-mile road course.

Race length: All main events will span 10 laps.

Entries: Nearly 300 race and sports cars, ranging from the early 1900s to the mid 1980s, will compete on the challenging road course in nine race groups.

In addition: The weekend will also feature the COPIA Wine Country Pavilion, which will feature gourmet wines and foods from 35 area purveyors. There will be food samples from a variety of merchants, including Artisan Breads, Cornerstone, Girl and the Fig and Sonoma Savours. Participating wineries include Ravenswood, Buena Vista Winery, Cline Cellars, Korbel Champagne Cellars and Estancia.

Entry to the pavilion is included with the price of the admission ticket for the Jaguar Wine Country Classic and you will receive six free wine tastings, and four food tastings at the COPIA Wine Country Pavilion

as well as a free souvenir event program. All proceeds from the pavilion will go to Speedway Children's Charities, the charitable arm of Infineon Raceway.

Vintage Race Car Festival: Following Saturday's on-track action, a collection of 30 vintage race cars will drive in parade format from Infineon Raceway to the downtown Sonoma Plaza under a California Highway Patrol escort at approximately 5 p.m. The evening will offer an opportunity to view beautiful cars on display while sampling food and wine from Sonoma Valley's finest proprietors. Tickets are available for \$30 in advance (800-870-RACE). All proceeds benefit Speedway Children's Charities. For more information, contact Denise Silver at 707-933-3950.

Admission: Advance: \$40 Saturday, \$40 Sunday or \$60 for weekend pass. Children 12-and-under are free. Parking is free. Call 800-870-RACE or visit www.infineon-raceway.com or www.ticketmaster.com for more information.

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2006 LACROSSE  OnStar, A/C, CD \$3,500 OFF MSRP MSRP \$24,195 Sale Price \$22,195 Factory Rebate \$1,000 Trade-In Bonus Cash* \$500 NET COST \$20,695 1 at this price #C0126/170930	2006 SIERRA EXT CAB SLE  V8, CD, PW, PL \$8,165 OFF MSRP MSRP \$29,910 Sale Price \$26,995 Factory Rebate \$2,000 Down Pmt Asst. \$1,500 Trade-In Bonus Cash* \$750 NET COST \$21,745 1 at this price #C0141/181293
2006 G6 CONVERTIBLE  Leather, Heated Seats, 6 Disc CD \$1,000 IN REBATES \$500 Trade-In Assistance \$500 Conquest NET COST \$33,995 1 at this price #C0012/112684	2007 YUKON  Moon Roof, DVD, Navigation \$3,445 OFF MSRP MSRP \$37,440 Sale Price \$35,495 Trade-In Bonus Cash* \$1,500 NET COST \$42,995 1 at this price #C0130/148823
2006 SIERRA 2500 CREW CAB  Diesel, Leather, Moon Roof \$6,075 OFF MSRP MSRP \$47,820 Sale Price \$43,995 Factory Rebate \$500 Down Pmt Asst. \$1,000 Trade-In Bonus Cash* \$750 NET COST \$41,745 1 at this price #C0395/205654	2006 YUKON XL DENALI  Moon Roof, DVD, Nav. \$12,255 OFF MSRP MSRP \$55,250 Sale Price \$49,495 Factory Rebate \$5,000 Trade-In Bonus Cash* \$1,500 NET COST \$42,995 1 at this price #C0130/148823

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The 2007 Avalanche: A lower price with more refinement

BY TIM SPELL
MOTOR MATTERS

Those needing the flexibility to handle demanding passenger- and cargo-hauling needs are offered a new generation of the Chevrolet Avalanche — the part-pickup, part-SUV that pioneered a specialty full-size utility segment.

At a starting price tag lowered more than \$2,000 against the 2006 model, Chevy raises the 2007 Avalanche's refinement, inside and out. In 2WD form, the LS starts at \$32,490; the LT at \$33,170 and the LTZ at \$39,905.

While the industry trend is to shock the senses with in-your-face styling, the new Avalanche is created to lure with sophistication and added functionality.

"For 2007 we continue to add more flexibility to this truck, as well as a lot more refinement on both the interior and exterior," said Carl Hillenbrand, Avalanche product manager. "From an exterior perspective the design is more lean, as well as more agile-looking."

This less-cluttered, more sophisticated look, plus a more steeply raked windshield, helps generate more mainstream appeal, Hillenbrand said. The more radical windshield angle makes the truck look sleeker and improves aerodynamics, which helps fuel economy.

"At the front of the truck we have the wraparound body-color fascia — an appearance item, but one that helps fuel efficiency," Hillenbrand said. "We have distinctive headlamps and grille treatment that make it look very Chevrolet."

Muscularity is conveyed with a bulging power-dome hood and wider wheel tracks. Enhancing this pumped-up appeal are 20-inch polished-aluminum wheels that are standard on the LTZ and optional on the LT. Standard for the LS and LT are 17-inch machined cast-aluminum wheels.

Propelling these larger wheels is a standard 5.3-liter V8 that generates 320 horsepower — 25 more than the previous truck — and 340 pounds-foot of torque. An aluminum-block flex-fuel version, standard on 4WD models and a no-cost option on 2WD models, has the advantage of running on regular gasoline or E85 fuel, which is 85 percent ethanol and 15 percent gas. Its output is rated at 310 horses and 335 pounds-foot of torque.

In the third quarter of this year, a beefy all-aluminum 6.0-liter V8 will be available that cranks out 355 horsepower and 365 pounds-foot of torque. With a 4.10 axle ratio and 5.3- or 6.0-liter engine, the Avalanche has a towing capacity of 8,000 pounds.

Both the 5.3 and 6.0 benefit from Active Fuel Management displacement-on-demand technology. This technology offers improved fuel economy via the ability to switch back and forth from eight- to four-cylinder operation as driving situations demand.

The workhorse ability for which Avalanche is best known is its cargo hauling, which touts the flexibility of a Midgate system. This is

TRUCK TALK

one part of the truck that is unchanged.

The cargo box is 5 feet 3 inches long, has a standard locking tailgate and a hard tonneau cover. Fold down the Midgate, with the option of glass stored in it, to expand the composite cargo floor to 8 feet 2 inches long. You can lock the tailgate to protect cargo from the elements, as well as from thieves. Removing the cargo cover allows hauling of taller items.

While the system remains unchanged, the tailgate is altered. Instead of the previous composite material, it is made of stamped sheet metal with a plastic liner on the front edge. Since this makes for a heavier unit, an assist is incorporated to make the tailgate easier to handle. For '07 the conventional key lock is subbed with a central locking system, allowing the tailgate to be locked and unlocked by interior switches or remote keyless-entry fob.

New is a tailgate-mounted camera — a \$195 option packaged with the navigation system. This camera provides a rear view displayed on a monitor as an aid when in reverse. The monitor is mounted in a restyled dashboard that is far more refined than its predecessor's.

Interior fit and finish also are much improved, Hillenbrand said. "Gaps are measured in fractions of a millimeter instead of what we had before."

Importantly, the cab is larger, providing more hiproom, legroom and headroom for occupants in both rows. More premium materials are used in the interior. It is dressed with chrome accents, brushed metal, woodgrain and new-style leather.

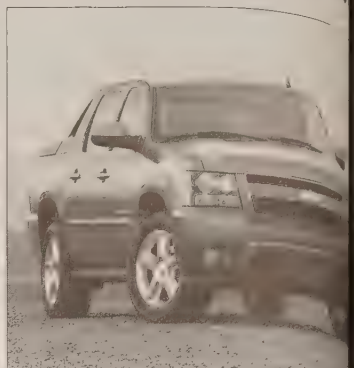
"We moved the IP down a full 6 inches — giving you better visibility outside of the vehicle, as well as giving you a more spacious interior," Hillenbrand said. "We have the largest console in the segment

— over 20 liters. We also have a glove compartment that's 25 percent larger than before."

Tim Spell is the automotive writer for the Houston Chronicle Cars & Trucks section.



THE 2007 CHEVY AVALANCHE MIDGATE second row seating, top. Fold down the Midgate, bottom, to expand the composite cargo floor to 8 feet 2 inches long.



THE NEW AVALANCHE is created to lure with sophistication and added functionality.

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According to the National Highway Transportation Administration, 25 percent of all cars on the road today have at least one tire whose air pressure is more than eight pounds under factory specification. Underinflated tires can overheat, and are a serious safety hazard. Check the air pressure in your tires at least once a month.

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Set up a car pool to save gas money

TRIBUTE NEWS SERVICE

Instead of paying too much at the gas pump, it might be time for you and your neighbors to get together and do something about it — by forming a car pool.

Car pools provide a solid method of saving driving and fuel expenses. Car pools are hardly a new idea: Over the years, countless families have used them to transport children to and from school or other activities.

Setting up a car pool can be an easy process that may only require a simple agreement with a neighbor's door. If you are able to form a car pool, keep the following points in mind:

- Agree in advance the number of people who will drive and when and where the car pool will operate.
- Agree on how riders will share expenses. Money to help cover the cost of gas may not prove a factor if the car pool works on a rotating basis.
- Make sure all drivers in the car pool have full auto insurance. If you are driving, ask your insurance company if your premium can be lowered because you are driving less.

- Arrange routes and pickup points, either at homes or more central locations.
- Set a time limit for how long the driver will wait for a tardy passenger.
- Establish car pool guidelines for eating, drinking, smoking or playing music during the trip.
- If organizing a car pool through a local RideShare program, locate drivers and riders within a convenient area and with similar working hours. Try to get together with prospective riders before starting the program. This can help people feel more comfortable with one another before shared commuting begins. If you have reservations about anyone in a car pool, either opt out of it or join it on a trial basis.
- Take a few car pool trial runs with riders to work out any problems or to make certain everyone involved is comfortable with the arrangements.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Energy; Mid-America Regional Council. Edited and compiled by Chuck Myers.

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Youth oriented: 2007 Chevrolet Aveo sedan has an all-new exterior and interior design characterized by youthful refinement, generous features usually seen in more expensive cars and a more confident, dynamic driving experience. This sedan will be available in LS and LT models starting in summer 2006, and offers a range of value-driven options to suit a variety of lifestyles. The Aveo team reached beyond the highly important affordability factor to broaden the car's strong value position.

Tire check: One of the most no-

table qualities that set sports sedans apart from the everyday sedan is the superior handling — and the tires. Automakers and tire companies work closely in conjunction with the vehicle's suspension to balance the ride and handling characteristics. Sports sedans often are equipped with high-performance summer tires to deliver improved braking, which contribute to better agility, stopping distance, and steering response. However, summer tires don't provide much traction for braking in snow.

Source: Consumer Reports.

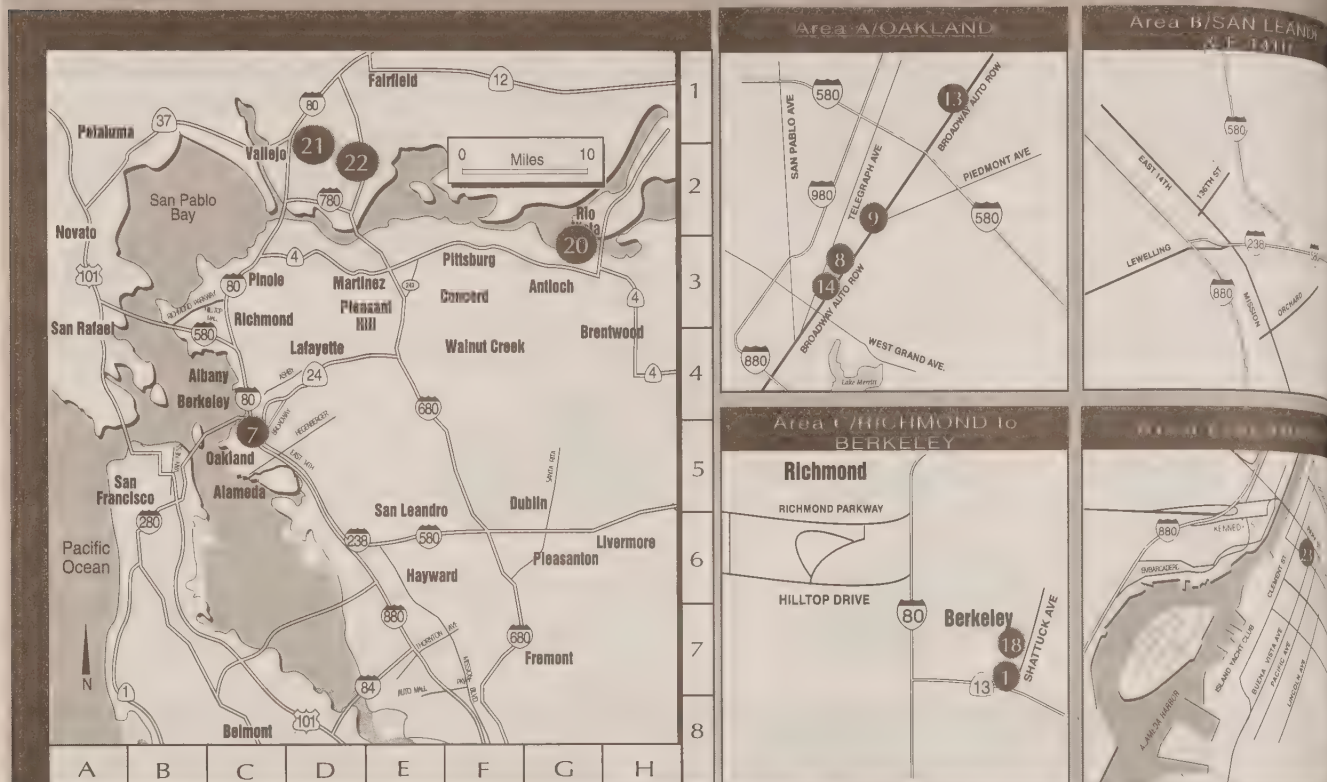
Strong sales: The nation's franchised new car and light truck dealers recorded their strongest year on record in 2005, selling more than 16.94 million vehicles, up from 16.86 in 2004, according to a comprehensive analysis compiled by the National Automobile Dealers Association. The healthy pace of new vehicle sales in 2005 was driven by generous incentives, such as cash rebates, as well as availability of attractive financing rates, lease options and enhanced dealership services.



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1-888-251-3634

SATURN
Saturn of Oakland
2401 Broadway, Oakland
(510) 839-6400

HONDA
Berkeley Honda Auto Center
"Your Bay Area Hybrid Superstore"
2600 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley
(866) 208-1931
www.berkeleyhondaautocenter.com

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Ron Goode Toyota
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1-800-716-9634
www.rongoodetoyota.com

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1630 Park St., Alameda
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Across from the Oakland Coliseum
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www.infinitioakland.com

Volkswagen

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(888) 405-5210

NISSAN

20. **Antioch Nissan G-3**
1615 West 10th St.
(925) 755-2600

SATURN

14. **Saturn of Oakland Area A**
2401 Broadway, Oakland
(510) 839-6400

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18. **Scion of Berkeley**
2400 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley
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Mercedes-Benz

9. **Mercedes-Benz of Oakland**
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TOYOTA

13. **Downtown Toyota Area A**
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18. **Toyota of Berkeley Area C**
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(888) 251-3634
www.toyotaofberkeley.com

20. **Antioch Toyota G-3**
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21. **Toyota Vallejo D-2**
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(800) 660-5660

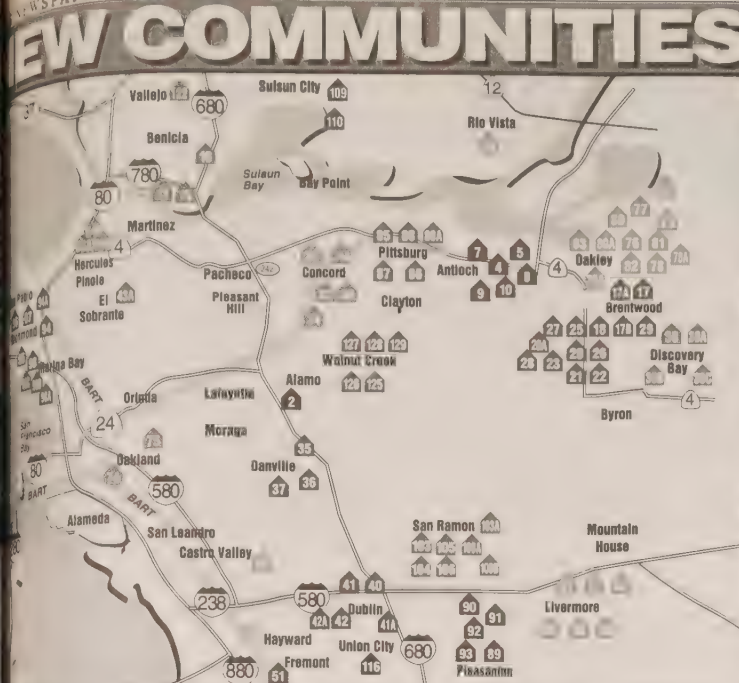
22. **Toyota Scion of Vallejo**
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23. **Ron Goode Toyota Area E**
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CONCORD

33 TAPESTRY - From the mid \$500,000s. Located near I-680, Hwy 242 & 4 with 3-4 bed plans. approx. 1,478 to 1,218 sq ft. inequality features. Models open daily 10-5, Tues. 1-5. 1-580/Monumental/El Meadow. 925-889-5900. www.denovohomes.com

34 NEWHAVEN AT LIME RIDGE - From the high \$600,000s. 5 bed/5ba+loft, 3-4 ba, 3,000 to 3,900 sq ft homes on large potholes with hillside views. Open daily 11-5, except Tues/Wed. Lenox Homes. 925-962-0664. www.lencohomes.net. Broker call Lenox

34A LA TERRAZA - From the mid \$200,000s. Completely remodeled condominiums with 1 & 2 bed floor plans. Onsite pool, spa and fitness center. Close to everything! Models open daily 11-6. 1505 Kiker Pass Road. 925-798-0216. www.laterazacandos.com

35 DIABLO HIGHLANDS ESTATES - From the low \$1,600,000s. 5-6 bed, 3.5-4.5 ba, 3,000 to 3,900 sq ft homes on large potholes with hillside views. Open daily 11-5, except Tues/Wed. Lenox Homes. 925-962-0664. www.lencohomes.net. Broker call Lenox

36 LEVANTO & VERNAZZA AT MONTEROSSO - From the mid \$900,000s. Stunning San Ramon Valley homes with six unique open floor plans offer 2,484 to 3,212 sq ft. 3 to 6 bed/2.5 to 5.5 ba, and 2- to 3-car garage. Zero-energy home option available. 925-580-1145

37 WEINER RANCH - From the low \$1,000,000s. Single-family homes with unique architectural styles and a variety of customizing options. Up to 7 bed/5 ba, approx. 4,460-4,040 sq ft. Call 925-648-4052. www.sagehill.com. Alamo Creek coming soon.

38 THE LAKES - From the mid \$500,000s. 1,870 to 4,109 sq ft. Five distinct new gated communities highlighted by a 14-acre man-made lake, basketball & volleyball courts, exercise park course & walking trails. Open daily. 1-800-760-LAKE. www.DiscoverTheLakes.com

39A RAVENSWOOD DUETS - From the low \$500,000s. Located in the Delta area on Hwy 4 for an easy commute. Ravenswood Duets offers home designs from 1,674 to 1,810 sq ft with 3 & 4 bed, 2.5 ba. Open M-F 10-5, Sat/Sun 10-4. 925-516-6548. www.drtorchon.com

39B RAVENSWOOD PLACE - From the mid \$500,000s. Discover a water-oriented lifestyle in Discovery Bay. 1- and 2-story homes with large lots, 3-4 bed, 2.5 ba, 2,100 to 2,500 sq ft. Open M-F 10-5, Sat/Sun 10-4. 925-516-6548. www.drtorchon.com

39C RAVENSWOOD ESTATES - From the mid \$500,000s. By Hwy 4 for easy commute. 1- and 2-story luxury homes 2,466 to 3,568 sq ft. 4- to 5 bed/3 ba, 2.5 ba, Mediterranean, Craftsman & Cottage options. Open M-F 10-5, Sat/Sun 10-4. 925-516-6548. www.drtorchon.com

40 DUBLIN
40 SILVER RANCH - Chosen between Estero Homes, Manors and Villa Towns. Each with multiple floor plans. Located in the peaceful Dublin foothills close to urban amenities. Open Sat & Sun 10-5. 925-521-6971. 6833 Tassajara Rd. www.pnnbros.com

41 ROXBURY - From the mid \$700,000s. 2- and 3-story homes with up to 4 bed/3.5 ba, from 1,675 to 1,235 sq ft. Located off of Tassajara Road, turn at Somerset Lane. Open daily from 10-5. 925-829-7330. greenbriarhomes.com

41A SORRENTO AT DUBLIN RANCH - From the low \$600,000s. Elegant condominiums, townhomes and detached homes with up to 2,981 sq ft. Nearby shopping center, open parks and easy access to BART. Open 11-6 daily. 888-266-2949. Toll Brothers.

42 THE TERRACES AT DUBLIN RANCH VILLAGES - From the low \$500,000s. 1- & 2- & 3-bed residences, up to 1,540 sq ft. Take Tassajara Rd., exit north, turn on Dublin Blvd., follow signs. Open daily 11-6. 925-479-9611. dublinranchvillages.com. Toll Brothers.

42A ELAN - From the high \$400,000s. Located next to the Dublin BART station. Elan brings the best of urban living to the suburbs. 10 condominium floor plans from 860 to 1,549 sq ft, from 1 to 3 bed. www.drtorchon.com. 888-560-1110 or 925-828-7707

EL SOBRANTE
43A PEBBLE CREEK - Newly renovated homes from the mid \$500,000s. The gated community features 1- & 2- & 3-bed homes, private decks, fireplaces, a pool, gym and club room. Sign up for a subscriber-only sneak preview at elsobrantedecondos.com. 510-222-5502

FAIRFIELD
44 ESTANCIA AT SOUTHERN - From the mid \$500,000s. 4-5 bed, 2.5-3.5 ba, 2,100 to 2,847 sq ft homes with up to 3.5 bed/3 ba, up to 3.5 ba, 2-100 sq ft. The latest new home technologies. Open M-F 10-5, Sat/Sun 10-4. 925-516-6548. www.drtorchon.com

45 ANDALUCIA - From the mid \$500,000s. Marble features 4 plans approx. 2,205-3,816 sq ft, up to 5 bed/3 ba. Sevilla features 4 plans, approx. 2,796-3,940 sq ft, up to 7 bed/3 ba. Located in Rancho Solano. Open Sat-Thurs, 11-5. Fri-Sat, 10-5. www.lencohomes.com

46 ARIA - From the \$500,000s. Final sales release. Redwood artist's approach to homebuilding w/60 custom-quality homes that offer up to 7 bed, 2,900 to 3,565 sq ft, and views of the surrounding natural beauty. 707-864-1555. www.citatonormerth.com

47 EASTRIDGE HILLS - From the mid \$1,000,000s. Models Now Selling! 3,176 to 4,558 sq ft 3-4 bed, up to 5 ba. Gated community with large, view homesites. Open daily 10-5. 707-864-8080. www.HomesByParadise.com

48 PARADISE CREST - From the low \$700,000s. Five floor plans ranging from 2,357 to 3,300 sq ft. Amenities include Corian kitchen countertops, parks and cable in all bedrooms, 3-car gar. 925-479-9022. www.seenhomes.com

49 CENTINALE WALK - From the \$400,000s. Now Selling! This collection of new homes has 3 spacious floor plans, 3 bed, 2.5 ba and 1,309-2,075 sq ft. Close to shopping, restaurants, parks & 1015 Chamberlain Dr. www.TheOlsenCo.com. 707-423-1955

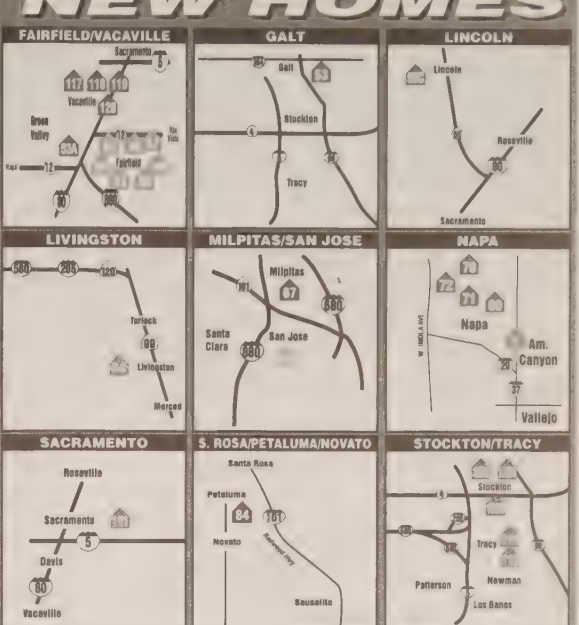
50 TURNSTONE - Prices starting below the \$500,000s. 4 furnished models, 1,791 to 2,170 sq ft of classic architecture. Timeless 3 & 4 bed residences with innovative floor plans & placed in the most stunning of settings. www.citatonormerth.com. 800-947-0404

FREMONT
51 BAYWOOD VILLAS - From the low \$200,000s. New Phase! Luxury attached homes with studio, 1- and 2-bed designs. Pool, spa, fitness center & clubhouse. Open daily 10-30-5. 3190 Red Cedar Terrace. 510-790-7011. www.baywoodvillas.com

GALT
53 KEYSTONE - From the low \$500,000s. Five home designs from 2,152 to 3,748 sq ft on a minimum of 10,000 sq ft lots with 3 to 5 bed and 2- to 4-car garages. Tue-Sun, 10-4 & Mon 2-6. Call (209) 745-7650. The Hoffman Company www.hoffmanhomes.com

GREEN VALLEY
53A EASTRIDGE - Estate Home Sites from the \$600,000s. Gated community in the hills above Green Valley. Custom homes from \$2,000,000. Julie Berg (707) 862-5292 or (707) 761-0158. Open Thurs, Sun 10-6 & Mon, 9-6. www.hoffmanhomes.com

AN EASY REFERENCE GUIDE TO NEW HOMES



FAIRFIELD/VACAVILLE

54 TEAL COVE AT CYPRESS GROVE - From the mid \$500,000s. 1- and 2-story homes with 1,823 to 3,635 sq ft. Nine floor plans offer 3-6 bed/2.5 ba and 2- to 3-car garages. Located in the heart of the Delta. 925-679-8902. or visit www.kjhomes.com

54B WILDEROSE - From the low \$500,000s. Entry level and move-up home buyers will appreciate the thoughtfully planned and well-appointed home designs ranging from 1,901 to 2,956 sq ft. Open M-F 10-5, Sat/Sun 10-5. 925-679-3338. www.drtorchon.com

55 LIVE OAK RANCH - From the \$500,000s. Single family detached homes ranging from approx. 2,000 to 4,000 sq ft. Parks, bocce ball, basketball courts & elementary school across the street. Located at Main & Simpson Ranch Road. www.visitlivermore.com

55B PHEASANT MEADOWS - From the upper \$500,000s. 4 plans from 2,302-4,065 sq ft, with up to 7 bed/5.5 ba. Includes gourmet kitchens, luxurious master bedroom suites. Between Carpenter Rd and Chare Ave. www.discovervillages.com. 925-679-1290

PETALUMA
84 SOUTHFAIR - From the low \$700,000s. Two neighborhoods. 9 models. Now Open! 4-5 bed homes, 2,046-3,152 sq ft. Great public schools. Open daily 11-6. Frazer Road at Lafayette Hwy. 707-769-9213. www.delcobuilders.com

85 VALENCIA AT SAN MARCO - From the mid \$700,000s. From 2,303 to 3,358 sq ft featuring 3-7 bed/3 to 4 ba. Close proximity to North Concord BART, Bay Point BART and Hwy 4. 925-261-0750. valenciamodels@comcast.net. www.discovervillages.com

86 HIGHLANDS RANCH - From the low \$500,000s. Bay Area's Best Buy! Single family homes with plans ranging in size between 1,734 & 4,300 sq ft, features 3-6 bed/2-3 car garages w/plenty of options. 925-434-9070. www.seenhomes.com

87 LAKEVIEW CONDOMINIUMS - From the low \$200,000s. 1-3 bed/1-2 ba. Close to BART. Granite counters, garages, full appliance package including washer/dryer. Open Mon-Fri 10-5, weekends 11-5. 925-525-9330. www.Condo4Pittsburg.com

88 STANFORD PLACE - From the mid \$500,000s. Less than one mile from Hwy 4 & near Pittsburg BART. Two-story single family homes with 1,785 to 2,193 sq ft. Three floor plans offer 3 to 5 bed/2.5 to 3 ba. 925-525-9019. visit www.ahome.com

88A MARINER WALK - From the mid \$400,000s. Coming Soon! 4 spacious floor plans, up to 4 bed, 1,685-1,967 sq ft. Close to downtown, marina, BART and freeways. Join the interest list today! Near White Way & 8th St. www.TheOlsenCo.com. 866-94-OLSON

89 MARIPOSA RANCH AT CALLIPPE PRESERVE - From the high \$500,000s. Only 14 homes sites allow. Open Fri-Sun 10-5. Exit 680 at Sunset/Castellwood. Go west-around corner to Happy Valley Rd, then 1 mile. 925-426-9847. www.visitmariposaranch.com

90 PHEASANT RIDGE - From the high \$1,000,000s. These 1 & 2-story, 5.5 bed and 4.5 ba luxury residences feature up to 5,326 sq ft. Take 880 to Barnet Ave. west, left on West Lagoon Rd. Open 10-5 daily. 925-931-9898. www.greenbriarhomes.com

91 BORDEAUX - From the high \$1,000,000s. 17 elegant homes feature up to 5 bed/4.5 ba and range in size from 3,850 to 4,950 sq ft on sites up to 16,000 sq ft. Open office from 10-5. For more information call 925-600-8288 or visit greenbriarhomes.com

92 VINEYARD HILLS - \$1,514,000. Final home remaining! 4 bed, den, 3.5 ba with expansive family room and master suite retreat. 1 acre lot with backyard patio and views of Mt. Diablo. Open 11-6. Clare Lane at Vineyard Ave. 925-485-1053.

93 IRONWOOD - From the low \$1,000,000s. Parkside living w/ cabana swim center & near Iron Horse Trail. 2 communities offer 1- & 2-story homes, 4 to 6 bed/3 to 5 ba, up to 4,000 sq ft. Open daily 11-5. Monday 2 to 5. 925-462-2100. www.ponderosahomes.com

RICHMOND
94 AUGUSTA AT COUNTRY CLUB VISTA - From the mid \$500,000s. 4-6 bed, up to 3,600 sq ft. New lower priced! Near Richmond Country Club. SCS Development Company. Open daily 10-30-5. 510-688-0473. www.scsdevelopment.com

94A SUMMER LAKE - From the high \$400,000s. Richmond Hilltop. Luxurious dunes and townhomes ranging from 1,554-2,103 sq ft. 3-4 bed/2-5.5 ba, 2-car garages, walking distance to Hilltop Mall and convenient. www.drtorchon.com. 888-560-1110 or 510-669-0567

95 SEACLIFF AT POINT RICHMOND - From the low \$500,000s. Waterfront community offers luxury & location. 3-4 bed single-family homes w/ views of the SF & Bay overlooking Bixby Creek Marina. Open daily 11-6. 510-234-8900. Toll Brothers.

96 BAY VILLAS AT COUNTRY CLUB PRESERVE - From the mid \$500,000s. Experience Bay Area living at its finest! 2 & 3 bed, 1,586 to 1,969 sq ft. Beautiful courtyard homes, fully equipped. Open daily 11-6. Call 510-222-2865. www.CountryClubPreserve.com

97 BELLA FLORA - From the low \$500,000s. Beautiful single-family homes near I-80 & I-580, perfect for commuters. Two-story homes featuring four floor plans with up to 2,403 sq ft, 3 to 5 bed/2.5 to 3 ba, and 2-car garages. Call 510-377-0085 today!

98 ANCHOR COVE - From the high \$400,000s. 2- & 3- & 4-bed townhome-style condominiums within the Marina Bay master plan. Ranging up to 2,124 sq ft. Adjacent to waterfront trails, parks & marina. Open Tues-Sun, 10-5, Mon, 12-5. 510-965-0723. www.sggroop.com

98A MARINA BAY - From the \$300,000 to the mid \$500,000s. 1- & 2-bed condominium homes. Private patio or balcony. Gated community with tennis, pools, fitness center & more. Open daily 10-6. 866-264-0650. www.HomesAtMarinaBay.com. Sales by Pacific Marketing

98B THE COVE AT MARINA BAY - From the high \$200,000s. 1- & 2-bed plan condominium homes incl. granite counters, large closets, fireplaces. Many community amenities. Open 10-5. 866-264-0650. www.HomesAtMarinaBay.com. Sales by Pacific Marketing

98C THE SHORES AT MARINA BAY - From the mid \$300,000s. 6 floor plans w/ 1- & 2-bed condos w/private patio or patio. 2-car garage, fitness center & more. Close to marina. Open 10-4. 866-264-0650. www.HomesAtMarinaBay.com. Sales by Pacific Marketing

99 TRILOGY AT RIO VISTA - From the low \$300,000s. 8 models, 13 floor plans, 1,153 to 2,541 sq ft. Outdoor pools, indoor track, center, fitness facility. Rio Vista golf course. Open daily 9-5, Fri 11-5. 888-257-0223. Trilogy.com. www.trilogy17.com

SACRAMENTO
101 NEWHAVEN - From the high \$300,000s. LAST CHANCE - ONLY 4 HOMES REMAIN! 3-5 bed, 1,536-2,725 sq ft. Some cul-de-sac clubhouses, fitness centers, pool & spa. www.sacramentovillages.com. 1-866-924-3200. Open daily 10-8 at 101 Teahouse Ct.

SAN RAMON

103 MORRIS CANYON ESTATES - From the upper \$1,000,000s. Gated community features 2-story homes, gourmet kitchens, master bedrooms, family rooms, dens and lower-level bonus rooms. Floor plans up to 6,600 sq ft. Open daily 11-6. 925-743-7000. Toll Brothers

103A REFLECTIONS - From the \$200,000s. Luxury condominiums in the heart of San Ramon: these 1- and 2-bed condos in gated community offer convenient access to employment centers & are near BART. Open 10-5. www.reflectionscondos.com

104 CRESTVIEW - Luxury attached homes from just the \$300,000s. Grand Opening! Spacious 1- and 2-bed condos in gated community offer convenient access to employment centers & are near BART. Open 10-5. www.crestviewcondos.com

105 GALE RANCH - From the mid \$500,000s and \$1,000,000s. Variety 944-9435. Villages 925 987 0001. Monarch 925 248 0112. Galaxy 925 967 0013. The Ponto 925 735 1517. Terraviva 925 964 9239. Rose Garden 925 968 1532. Boulevard 925 964 9431. www.shapel.com

106 COPPER RIDGE - 1- and 2-bed condos and townhomes in a gated community with a resort lifestyle and valley views. Each home includes a private garage. Represented by Pacific Marketing Assoc. 145 Copper Ridge Rd., 866-575-4848. www.CopperRidgeCA.com

106A SIENA HILLS - From the mid \$200,000s. Studio, 1 bed/1 ba, 2 bed/2 ba, condos. Overlooking Canyon Lakes Golf Course. Private gated community. Sun deck and patios, clubhouse, pools, fitness center. No Mello-Ros. 925-968-1252. www.sienahills.com

106B SOUTHDRIE AT SIENA HILLS - From the mid \$200,000s. Studio, 1 bed/1 ba, 2 bed/2 ba, 2 bed/2 ba condos. Private gated community. Sun deck and patios, clubhouse, pools, fitness center. No Mello-Ros. 925-968-1252. www.southdriehomes.com

STOCKTON
108 BLOSSOM RANCH - From the upper \$400,000s. 4 to 6 bed, up to 2,851 sq ft. New lower priced! Affordable single family homes with Broker 4-Cop Open daily 10-30am-6pm. Closed Thursday 10-30am-6pm. 925-455-0055. www.ardmorehomes.com

108A ASHLAND STATION - From the upper \$400,000s pre-model pricing. 4-5 bed/3 ba, 2338-3757 sq ft. Distinctive exteriors, well-planned interiors, many amenities. Open M-F 10-5, S/S 9-5. 925-957-9655. www.drtorchon.com

108B VALVERDE VILLAGES - From the mid \$400,000s pre-model pricing. 4-5 bed/3 ba, 2834-3610 sq ft. Dazzling exteriors, thoughtfully planned interiors. Open M-F 10-5, S/S 9-5. 925-957-9652. www.drtorchon.com

SUISUN
109 AMBERWOOD - Pre-construction pricing from the mid \$500,000s. A limited collection of 28 2-story homes featuring 3-6 bed/2.5 to 3.5 ba, 2,774 to 3,774 sq ft. Spring and summer 2006 deliveries. Open Thurs-Mon 11-6. 707-425-0055. www.edenbroghomes.com

110 THE CLASSICS/LEGACY AT PETERSON RANCH - From the mid \$500,000s. Six models, 1,581 to 2,830 sq ft. Ready for move-in. Open 10-5. The Classics 707-424-0166. The Legacy 707-435-9900. HomeVans Homes www.khiv.com

TRACY
114 REDBRIDGE - From the mid \$500,000s. Cottages II features 2 plans, approx. 1,945-2,226 sq ft, 3-4 bed/2.5 ba. Village II features 3 plans approx. 2,388-3,308 sq ft, 4-5 bed/2-3.5 ba. Open Sat-Thurs 11-5, Fri 2-5. www.visitredbridge.com

115 OXFORD SQUARE - From the mid \$400,000s. Now Selling! 3-4 bed, 2.5-3.5 ba homes approx. 1,703-2,238 sq ft. With unique architecture unlike any other! Community Open Sat-Thurs 11-5. Fri 2-5. 209-834-8723. www.VisitOxfordSquare.com

UNION CITY
116 PACIFIC TERRACE - Coming Soon! Townhomes located 30 miles southeast of San Francisco & 20 miles north of San Jose. Easy access to I-880 & I-680. Call 888-KH-HOMES or visit khhome.com to join the interest list.

VACAVILLE
117 MAPLEWOOD VILLAGES - From the mid \$200,000s. Two spacious townhome designs feature 2- or 3-bed. Private patios, clubhouse and sparkling pool. Great location near downtown and I-80. 866-754-8430. www.maplewoodvillages.com

118 THE ESTUARY AT NORTH VILLAGE - From the mid \$500,000s. 6 floor plans range from 1,783-3,740 sq ft. Luxurious master bedroom suites with optional fireplaces, dens, lofts, bonus rooms, media rooms and decks. www.seenhomes.com. Call 707-451-1229

119 MAPLEWOOD - From the mid \$400,000s. Single family detached homes for active adults, ages 55 or better. 2 bed w/den or 3 bed/2 ba. From 1,459 to 1,879 sq ft. Open daily, 10-5. 707-455-0800. www.visitdeshomes.com

120 CHEYENNE AT BROWN'S VALLEY - From the mid \$700,000s. Luxury single-family homes. 6 floor plans range in size from 2,775-3,711 sq ft with 3-5 bed and 3-4.5 ba and up to 4-car garages. www.drtorchon.com. 707-455-1128 or 888-560-1110

VALLEJO
122 HIDDEN BROOK - From the low \$700,000s. Award-winning master-planned golf community. Last planned community available. Summit by Mantara Homes. Models open! 1,993-2,827 sq ft, 3-4 bed/2-3 ba. 415-645-0553. www.visitdeshomes.com

WALNUT CREEK
125 MONTECITO - 1- & 2-bed condominium homes. Gourmet kitchens, master suites, terraces or balconies, full-appliance washer & dryers, high-speed Internet access & more. Spectacular views. 888-363-7600. www.livesteamontecito.com

126 WALKER COURT - From the mid \$400,000s. Luxury condominium homes, 16- & 2-bed & 8-1 bed. Underground parking. Close to the BART and freeways. Open Sat/Sun 12-4. 2020 Walker Ave., W.C., 925-287-8865. www.walker court.com

127 CITYCROSS CONDOMINIUMS - From the high \$300,000s. 1-2 bed/1 ba. Granite counters, garages, full appliance package including washer and dryer. Close to BART. Open daily 11-6. 925-287-9720. www.CityCrossCondos.com

128 MERCER - Luxury condos homes in the heart of WC. Fitness center, pool, courtyard, attended lobby. Near premiere shopping, dining, entertainment. 1-3 bed, 1,525-2.5 ba. Sales at 1645 Mt. Diablo. Open daily 11-5. 925-988-0400. www.merceratlakeview.com

129 CLUB VILLAS - From the mid \$300,000s. 1- & 2-bed homes. Recreational opportunities abound with tennis, swimming, golf and a fitness center. Club Villas, a tranquil oasis in the middle of it all. Visit Club Villas at 245 Masters Ct. 866-824-5714. www.ClubVillas.com

130 KIRKWOOD TERRACE - From the low \$1,000,000s. Fabulous 3 to 5 bed homes in great location close to downtown, I-680 and BART on spacious cul-de-sac lots. High quality standard features and finishes. Join the priority list at www.Delcobuilders.com

Safer at every speed

BY ROYAL FORD
THE BOSTON GLOBE

Americans are hitting the roads for heavy summer travel aboard some of the safest vehicles ever built. And it's not because they're all driving luxury cars.

Key lifesaving technology, often as standard equipment, is moving down the automotive cost chain, touching even entry-level cars.

Car makers of widely affordable vehicles, particularly Honda, Hyundai, and Kia, are increasingly making critical gear such as side and side-curtain airbags, electronic stability control, and antilock brakes standard fare in cars whose base prices range from \$10,000 to \$25,000. Until recently, these features were available only in vehicles above \$30,000 — forcing people to buy luxury cars if they wanted safer rides.

"It's amazing what happens when automakers finally decide to deal with a problem," said David Friedman, a research director at Cambridge-based Union of Concerned Scientists, which in 2003 designed a sport utility vehicle that incorporated many features now in use.

Honda's new subcompact Fit, for instance, starts at \$14,000 and comes with six airbags front to rear and standard antilock brakes (ABS). Most entry-level cars only have two front airbags.

Virtually all Hyundais come with six standard airbags. Its small SUV, the Tucson, starts at less than \$20,000 with the airbags and crucial electronic stability control (ESC). The Insurance Institute for Highway Safety rated Hyundai's \$25,000 2007 Entourage minivan as the safest on the market because of its full package of front, side, and three rows of curtain bags, stability control, traction control, and ABS. And its Azera sedan, also at \$25,000, brings all of the above while boosting airbags to eight.

Driven by competition, government testing requirements, and consumer savvy, it is a trend that will continue, predicts David Champion, director of auto testing for Consumer Reports magazine. "You're going to see more and more safety features, in more and more cars, at cheaper and cheaper value," he said, adding that many should be made standard.

Of all the new safety features, electronic stability control is the one that safety advocates and industry participants call the most revolutionary. That's because it prevents accidents, while many other advances take over after a crash.

ESC uses sensors to monitor driver intent, wheel speed, slippage, forces compelling the car, and then acts on individual wheels that should be slowed or powered to force the car back to its proper path.

Studies in the United States, Japan, and Europe in the past two years have shown the impressive lifesaving potential of ESC. Hyundai and Kia, a subsidiary of Hyundai Motor Co., have made ESC standard in a broad swath of their lineup, leapfrogging even Honda and venerable Volvo, which relies largely on after-crash protection, in standard safety gear.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration estimates that equipping passenger cars with ESC cuts the risk of single-vehicle accidents 35 percent and that SUV risk would drop 67 percent. The Insurance Institute, a research group funded by auto insurers, estimates that if all vehicles on US roads had ESC, 800,000 accidents could be prevented and 14,000 lives spared each year.

And while studies are scarce on the relatively recent addition of

side-impact and side-curtain airbags, NHTSA estimates that the former could save 1,000 or more lives per year and the latter are reducing deaths by about 45 percent among drivers hit on the driver's side.

For example, the institute rated the Ford Five Hundred sedan the safest only after airbags that are optional are added.

Side airbags protect the torso from side-impact crashes. Curtain bags protect the head from intruding vehicles and contact with the window or door frame, and they keep limbs inside the car in cases of rollover. And, particularly in the case of SUVs, they help prevent unbelted occupants from being ejected. Indeed, analysts and those in the industry acknowledge that future federal testing standards will likely mean that side and curtain airbags will be necessary to pass the tests.

Compliance and competition will drive safety, said James O'Sullivan, chief executive for Mazda North American Operations, who argued that standard safety features may become "the price just to get into the game."

Economic class has played a strong role in the safety of cars that Americans drive, according to a study by Consumer Reports. It said last fall that only 2 percent of house-

holds with incomes under \$40,000 have cars with curtain airbags, while 20 percent of households with incomes above \$80,000 ride with that level of protection.

But wealth is only one factor. Often, the report said, even those with the money shun optional safety equipment.

"Our experience has been that when you make safety equipment optional, people don't buy it," said Chuck Thomas, a chief safety engineer for American Honda Motor Co., Inc.

Consumer Reports found that drivers rank CD players, cruise control, air conditioning, and power outside mirrors as more important options than ESC or curtain airbags. In fact, 9 of the top 10 choice options were for comfort, convenience, and entertainment; ABS was the only safety feature.

Advocates say this is why crucial safety features should be standard. Yet many manufacturers still go for rock bottom sticker prices and offer safety as an option, and have been known to bundle safety with noncritical options before it can be bought.

For instance, the 2005 Mazda3 offered ABS and additional airbags for \$800, but only if consumers also spent \$1,400 on special wheels, power controls, and air conditioning.

Yet bad publicity caught up with manufacturers in the late '90s, and that's when expensive vehicles began to feature first-class safety equipment. Companies responsible for profitable segments of the market, such as SUVs, suspensions, leaf springs to increase load capacity, and suspension systems modified to lower the vehicle's center of gravity to make it more difficult to roll over and then contact point with cars on the road and over those on the road.

SUVs also got into some luxury cars. Side-impact sensors that trigger side-impact airbags when a vehicle is hit in the side by a vehicle whose brakes that sense the impact quickly remove them from the gas — indicating an impact and begin braking on the driver hits the brake pedal.

Yet not all of the cars from a heartless manufacturer save lives, said Ernest Rector of forecasting firm Grand Rapids, Mich. consulting firm.

"Part of what's going on is competition," he said. "The body is looking for a way to increase its competitive

Is 'trading up' obsolete?

BY CHERYL JENSEN
MOTOR MATTERS

Alfred P. Sloan, who died in 1966, should be glad he can't see this. The relevance of his marketing creation, General Motors' ladder of brands, seems to have gone the way of the defunct Oldsmobile.

Created in the 1920s, the ladder of brands was a way to keep car buyers within General Motors by having its less-expensive brands feed customers to its more expensive brands.

"The logic Mr. Sloan used is that as people get older and have more money, they would trade up," said Tom Libby, senior director of industry analysis at J. D. Power and Associates, Power Information Network.

Other companies, notably Ford, followed GM's example, Libby said. Libby looked at a year's worth (2005) of Power Information Network trading data to see whether the "trading up" concept still exists.

"It clearly does not," said Libby. That data shows that only a handful of owners of any given brand trade up to a more prestigious brand within the same corporation. The major exception is Scion owners. A whopping 28 percent of them trade up to a Toyota. Scion is Toyota's youth brand, created to attract young buyers and keep them as they move up the automotive food chain.

Next to Scion, the highest number of owners who trade up within the same company is Mini. Almost one in 10 Mini owners, 9.1 per-

DOWN THE ROAD

cent, trade up to a BMW.

Why is trading up important? Well, there is that well-known marketing maxim that it costs more to attract new customers than it does to keep the ones you already have.

"So whether they trade up, down or sideways is not important; but it is important financially that they trade within the same corporation," Libby said.

The data showed that only 1.8 percent of Toyota owners traded up to a Lexus; 2.4 percent of Honda owners traded up to an Acura; 0.9 percent of Nissan owners traded up to an Infiniti; 1.4 percent of Volkswagen owners bought an Audi; 1.5 percent of Ford owners bought a Mercury and only 0.6 percent went for a Lincoln. Within General Motors, only 2.4 percent of Buick owners and 1 percent of Pontiac owners traded to a Cadillac. These brands do have loyal customers, which makes the reluctance to move up within the same company somewhat perplexing.

When Toyota owners buy another vehicle, more than half (53.9 percent) buy another Toyota. Almost half of Ford owners (48.19 percent) trade to another Ford, according to J. D. Power data. They are trading sideways, so how important is it that owners aren't trading up to a luxury-branded Lexus?

"When they do trade up, I would think they would want Toy-

ota people going to Lexus instead of Mercedes," Libby said.

Libby thinks the reason more people aren't trading up within the same corporate family is because the market is fragmented and there are just so many choices. Niche brands like Hummer, Porsche, Land Rover and Jeep didn't exist in Sloan's day, Libby said.

A wide range of models are available from non-luxury brands in terms of body styles, prices, powertrains and features. These days consumers are more likely to find the luxury they want without buying a luxury nameplate. The Toyota Avalon, the Nissan Maxima, and the Ford Five Hundred all offer options that once were only available on luxury vehicles, Libby said. In addition, some brands have suffered a decline in brand image because of a weak portfolio of products, Libby said.

"So you have a Ford owner who can afford a luxury vehicle, there is a lot more to look at — BMW and Lexus — than there is at Lincoln," Libby said. Strong product is important. It is the reason Libby thinks 6.1 percent of Dodge owners trade to a Chrysler, which has appealing, competitive products, such as the 300 sedan and Town & Country minivan.

"If the strategy is to keep a customer and have them go from Brand A to B and C, then I think the situation is not as good as they want it to be," Libby said. All of this calls into question the rel-



TOM LIBBY, SENIOR DIRECTOR of industry analysis at J. D. Power and Associates, Power Information Network.

Motor oil

BY WARREN BRADY
THE WASHINGTON POST

■ Do not be alarmed. Motor oil turns black. It happens long before the protection valve in the engine combustion chamber soot, and other byproducts, perse through the filter, ing it dark. But if it is and dark, that means aaminant-dispersant has have diminished and should be changed.

■ You can maximize the life of your engine by using synthetic oils with detergent oils inasmuch as they are derived from oil-based fluids. But with new-generation oils that could contain no derived chemicals.

■ High-mileage oils contain either more or quality seal conditioners protect valve seals — typically those for or with 75,000 miles.

■ Daily commuting, tures severe, stop-and-go driving, short trips and idling, all of which strain on your engine, long-distance highway is easier on most thanks to better combustion fuels and constant driving in steady state. Drive more frequently for saving. Change it often. If most of your driving highway. Consult your manual for recommended change intervals.

WEEKLY SALES

ALAMEDA

3233 Bayo Vista - \$870,000
51 Benedict Ct - \$665,000
339 Broadway 101 - \$425,000
1712 Broadway - \$711,000
1245 Clarke Ln - \$740,000
228 Crendon Cr - \$1,500,000
1730 Eagle Av - \$875,000
3367 Fernalde Bl - \$800,000
3305 Fir Av - \$700,000
1147 Holly St - \$575,000
1026 Otis Dr - \$750,000
611 Santa Clara Av - \$715,000
1537 Schiller St - \$783,000
960 Shorepoint 118 - \$417,000
955 Shorepoint - \$359,000

ALBANY

733 Carmel Av - \$885,000
1010 Peralta Av - \$1,210,000
535 Pierce St 1205 - \$450,000
535 Pierce St 3303 - \$458,000

BERKELEY

715 Arlington - \$1,974,000
2909 Dohr St - \$572,000
1415 Dwight Wy - \$615,000
507 Grizzly Peak - \$1,277,500
1344 Hearst Av - \$630,000
1309 Hopkins St - \$715,000
1308 Hopkins St - \$740,000
1234 Kains Av - \$468,000
1033 Keeler Av - \$968,000
3311 King St - \$535,000
1731 La Loma - \$1,025,000
1508 Le Roy Av - \$1,435,000
1321 Milvia St - \$1,300,000
1259 Monterey Av - \$800,000
1300 Monterey Av - \$462,500
1009 Overlook Rd - \$950,000
1106 Oxford St - \$1,080,000
2 Panoramic 202 - \$355,000
1224 Peralta Av - \$665,000
26 Rock Ln - \$789,000
12 Tunnel Rd - \$1,050,000
2632 Warring 7 - \$480,000
1622 W. Oxford St - \$590,000

EL CERRITO

458 Carleton St - \$781,000

2001 Tamalpais Av - \$910,000

EL SOBRANTE

4632 Elmwood Rd - \$431,000
3939 Farris Ln - \$360,000
3911 La Cresenta - \$520,000
750 Pebble Dr - \$479,000

KENSINGTON

608 Plateau Dr - \$775,000

OAKLAND

1628 100th Av - \$445,000
1900 107th Av - \$515,000
2314 109th Av - \$310,000
2245 11th Av - \$500,000
1519 13th Av - \$300,000
1030 24th St - \$199,000
1054 24th St - \$539,000
549 29th St - \$880,000
1032 32nd St - \$455,000
1612 34th St - \$610,000
870 34th St - \$441,000
917 37th Av - \$510,000
1200 41st Av - \$335,000
862 58th St - \$400,000
581 59th St - \$575,000
601 63rd St - \$980,000
3501 64th Av Pl - \$850,000
2108 68th Av - \$495,000
1202 73rd Av - \$230,000
1156 76th Av - \$290,000
1200 82nd Av - \$377,000
1819 94th Av - \$500,000
1338 99th Av - \$410,000
2420 9th Av - \$485,000
142 9th St - \$788,000
3216 Adeline St - \$699,000
2044 Austin St - \$590,000
3853 Balfour Av - \$825,000
974 Bayview Av - \$830,000
565 Bellevue 2207 - \$825,000
2818 Best Av - \$665,000
3927 Burkhalter - \$430,000
635 Canyon Oaks - \$367,000
6260 Castle Dr - \$1,201,000
341 Chandle Wy - \$759,000
3234 Chestnut St - \$860,000
1600 Church St - \$475,000
3575 Davis St - \$380,000
425 East 11th St 4 - \$529,000

2278 East 17th St - \$595,000

2423 East 22nd St - \$520,000

4515 Edgewood Av - \$495,000

6229 Foothill Bl - \$550,000

5501 Gaskill St - \$875,000

3090 Glascock 122 - \$655,000

2603 Grande Vista - \$395,000

3750 Harrison 01 - \$355,000

2207 Havenscourt - \$447,500

2321 Havenscourt - \$470,000

6695 Heartwood Dr - \$768,000

7824 Hillmont Dr - \$490,000

9642 Holly St - \$465,000

1 Lakeside 620 - \$681,500

51 Lane Ct - \$1,850,000

9604 Lawlor St - \$330,000

632 Madison St - \$640,000

3239 Magnolia St - \$559,000

842 Mandana - \$1,335,000

3780 Maybelle - \$1,375,000

5850 Marguerite Av - \$415,000

3009 Minna Av - \$635,000

2930 Morgan Av - \$455,000

3533 Oak Knoll Bl - \$620,000

6009 Old Quarry Lp - \$637,500

6011 Old Quarry Lp - \$632,500

6013 Old Quarry Lp - \$799,000

3615 Park Bl - \$575,000

3878 Patterson Av - \$400,000

3150 Pleitner Av - \$315,000

2521 Rampart St - \$680,000

2921 Rawson St - \$600,000

747 Rosemount Rd - \$1,342,000

3900 San Juan St - \$450,000

195 Santa Clara 3 - \$345,000

4158 Shafter Av - \$730,000

5357 Shafter Av - \$840,000

7122 Snake Rd - \$452,000

9916 St. Elmo Dr - \$225,000

4432 Steele St - \$730,000

870 Sunnyside - \$840,000

892 Sunnyside - \$960,000

6371 Sunnymere - \$545,000

2665 Talbot Av - \$485,000

6233 Thornhill Dr - \$699,000

1624 Trestle Glen - \$910,000

697 Tyler St - \$400,000

2688 Wakefield Av - \$525,000

1038 Walker Av - \$1,085,000

3061 Wisconsin St - \$725,000

811 York St 133 - \$305,000

RICHMOND

634 22nd St - \$590,000

1620 24th St - \$450,000

104 2nd St - \$290,000

663 30th St - \$500,000

447 3rd St - \$400,000

1721 5th St - \$465,000

2600 Barnard St - \$500,000

1065 Barrett Av - \$320,000

67 Bayside 314 - \$399,000

138 Bayside 385 - \$534,500

210 Bayside 457 - \$505,500

804 Bradford Dr - \$355,500

1124 Chanslor Av - \$285,000

37 Chesley Av - \$463,000

2919 Cindy Ct - \$625,000

1609 Cutting Bl - \$550,000

2125 Dunn Av - \$437,000

5049 Escalon Cr - \$660,000

2732 Euclid Av - \$512,000

2189 Greenridge - \$640,000

1112 Greystone - \$659,000

5613 Haskin Ct - \$787,000

5617 Haskin Ct - \$773,500

4008 Jenkins Wy - \$474,000

910 Maine Av - \$600,000

2901 Maricopa Av - \$470,000

3315 Maricopa Av - \$445,000

108 Marina Lakes 105 - \$287,000

419 Metro Wlk Way - \$435,000

3322 Park Ridge Dr - \$924,500

3328 Park Ridge Dr - \$955,500

5708 Santa Cruz Av - \$492,000

426 South 17th St - \$400,000

300 South 5th St - \$345,000

164 S. Harbour - \$375,000

436 S. Marina Wy - \$382,000

1006 View Dr - \$512,000

2506 Virginia Av - \$360,000

404 Wood Glen Dr - \$985,000

SAN LEANDRO

2201 Belvedere - \$385,000

1342 Chapel Av - \$582,000

14336 Elm St - \$689,000

1546 Fairmont Dr - \$549,000

668 Garside Ct - \$545,000

14783 Harold Av - \$662,000

1599 Hays St 108 - \$330,000

14487 Hemlock St - \$615,000

1960 Howe Dr - \$515,000

459 Lloyd Av - \$625,000

2053 Manchester - \$455,000

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Renaissance Villas	Berkeley	(888) 665-0074		www.apartments.com/renaissancevillas	1350 - 1895			
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Park Orchard	Hayward	(866) 473-5332	X	www.apartments.com/parkorchard	925 - 1285	X		X
Pinecrest Apartments	Hayward	(866) 813-4668	X	www.apartments.com/pinecrestca	995 - 1350	X	X	X
Woodlark Apartments	Hayward	(866) 617-4986	X	www.apartments.com/woodlarkca	895 - 1095	X	X	X
The Timbers	Hayward	(866) 602-1173	X	www.apartments.com/thetimbershayward	850 - 1150	X	X	X
Hilltowne Apartments	Hayward	(866) 242-1665	X	www.apartments.com/hilltowne	875 - 1275	X	X	X
Amador Village	Hayward	(866) 661-4986	X	www.apartments.com/amadorvillage	1185 - 1655	X	X	X
Hidden Hills Apartments	Laguna Niguel	(866) 477-8564	X	www.apartments.com/hiddenhills	1215 - 1595	X	X	X
Niguel Summit Apt Homes	Laguna Niguel	(866) 471-1047		www.apartments.com/niguelsummit	1275 - 1500	X	X	X
Seaview Summit	Laguna Niguel	(866) 464-0208	X	www.apartments.com/seaviewsummit	1225 - 1890	X	X	X
Larkspur Courts Apts	Larkspur	(888) 828-4096	X	www.apartments.com/larkspurcourts	1537 - 2577	X		X
Portola Meadows Apts	Livermore	(866) 217-7219	X	www.apartments.com/dhportolameadows	1040 - 1415	X	X	X
Villa Palms Apartments	Livermore	(866) 920-3481	X	www.apartments.com/villapalms	1010 - 1185	X		X
Plaka Family Apartments	Martinez	(866) 803-5207	X	www.apartments.com/plaka	990 - 1150	X	X	X
Plum Tree Apartments	Martinez	(866) 288-1276	X	www.apartments.com/plumtreeapartments	1045 - 1450	X	X	X
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Spartan Manor Sr. Living	Modesto	(866) 225-5885		www.apartments.com/spartanmanor	625 - 625			
Monte Vista at Morgan Hill	Morgan Hill	(866) 812-9244	X	www.apartments.com/montevisatmorganhill	816 - 1460	X	X	X
Highland Garden Apts	Mountain View	(888) 664-3386	X	www.apartments.com/highlandgardenmountain	925 - 1575	X	X	X
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17 Mile Drive Village	Pacific Grove	(866) 288-0115		www.apartments.com/17miledrivillage	1850 - 1995
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Lincoln Green Apartments	Pleasant Hill	(866) 420-5886	X	www.apartments.com/lincolngreenca	800 - 1775
Diablo Oaks	Pleasant Hill	(866) 237-9275		www.apartments.com/diablooaks	750 - 1150
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Reserve at Capital Center	Rancho Cordova	(866) 289-8219	X	www.apartments.com/reserveatcapitalcenter	745 - 1110
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U.V. Towers	Riverside	(866) 289-7575	X	www.apartments.com/utowers	765 - 1140
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Park Ridge Apartments	Rohnert Park	(866) 471-0926	X	www.apartments.com/parkridgerohnertpark	915 - 1218
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Business notices, personal messages, lost & found.

Found

FOUND Keys, Chalmers & Oak Grove, Concord 925-682-5888

JEWELRY - Diamonds & 18k gold in Alamo Call to I.D. 925-925-0106

PUPPY Black Lab, neut. male, Sat. 5/27, 580 in Oakland. 510-661-9621

Lost

\$100 Reward for Lost Fossil contact Kim Ly at 925-827-3639

\$500 REWARD LOST WHITE & BLACK PUPPY 510-366-3329

COMPUTERS (4 MACS) East 2nd St. Benicia. 925-753-1550

DOG: Tan Shep. Mix, 11 yrs. male, "Opie," shy, Oakland, 510-390-4965

Pets

LOST Germ Shep mix, 1 yr old, black & white, chest, ft. 925-922-7155

LOST Maine Coon Cat 5/12, female, fluffy & r/y/b/r/n, w/ white feet, Bannock, Merritt, W.C. "REWARD" 925-381-8140

LOST Maine Coon Cat 5/12, Female, fluffy grey/brown, w/ feet. Bannock/Merritt, W.C. "REWARD" 925-381-8140

Parrot, African Grey

REWARD! Missing 5/24, 925-376-4748; 976-1006

Poodle, Mini, Bk/Gray

"Lucky," Martinez, FOUND

\$5 REWARD \$5 Lost

Black/grey Parrot, 925-881-0406

\$5 REWARD \$5 Lost

Black/grey Parrot, 925-881-0406

While in Distress

Diamond ring & wedding band were missing from Iron Horse Trail in Danville. Pls. return only are family heirlooms. Pls. call Katie 510-228-9622

Personals

★BANKRUPTCY CH 7 - \$150★

★Divorce \$99-\$299★

925-689-4000

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Witnesses Needed for Accident at Port Chicago Hwy/Salvo

925-973-3103

Central Contra Costa Licensed Child Care

Affordable Extended hrs. Meals, F/T, P/T & Drop In. 925-429-2346

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ALL ages, b/r/aft, sch. trans. meals 925-682-2854

AMY'S Place 22mos-up Conc. \$145 wk. #0734

05197; 925-787-1897

CONCORD, Exp & lov ing 0-4 yrs. M-F, 925-691-5133 #073403285

MARTINEZ, two F/T CPR, Ages 0-4, (925) 228-4032; #070210851

East Contra Costa Licensed Child Care

A Mother's Care in Antioch, Ages 0-10, Exp'd. #073406582

Call 925-575-1557

East Contra Costa Licensed Child Care

BRENTWOOD child care, exp'd, 0-5, 925-240-8209; #073405214

FIRST STEPS CHILD-CARE 0-4 yrs. #073405411 Baypoint 925-261-0179

TINY Steps Daycare 1-5 yrs. #073404993, Oakland, 925-625-6460

Tri-Valley Licensed Child Care

BAYVIEW DAYCARE #073405317 Affordale, IL, 925-787-3458

West County Licensed Child Care

CJ's Family Day Care, age 0-12 yrs., 7am-5pm, Walnut Creek, 925-930-4500; #073404950 10-22-93-618

BUNNYWOOD CMMI Care/Pre-School, 0-10 Yrs. Music, Art, Educ. Activities, 23 yrs exp. CPR, #073404950 10-22-93-618

ERLY'S FAM. DAYCARE loc. in El Sobrante, Meals, excel. care, Free School Transp. #073404950 10-22-93-618

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<p>FORD 1990, Contour, Whit, 77K, Orig. owner, sold said solid</p> <p>FORD 1986, Mustang, AT, 4H, 4800, Gavin 925-462-2892</p>	<p>HONDA 2002 Civic DX AC, PS, Tilt, Wheel, Alloy, 28K, Jarrm, 925-932-7713</p> <p>HONDA 1982 Civic 1.6L HONDA EL CERRITO 858-318-4000</p> <p>HONDA 2002 Civic EX AC, PS, Mfr, ABS 858-318-4000</p>	<p>INFINITI 2002 G20 Sedan, Black, 28K, 4H, Lthr., C/D, Mfr., 4800, 925-462-2892</p> <p>HONDA 2002 Civic EX AC, PS, Mfr, ABS 858-318-4000</p>	<p>LINCOLN 2002 Towncar Lthr., prem, sound, AC, 68K, 925-462-2892</p> <p>LINCOLN 1998 Mark VIII, loaded, Lk. new, 55400, 925-284-4891</p>	<p>LINCOLN 2002 Towncar Lthr., prem, sound, AC, 68K, 925-462-2892</p> <p>2002 2002 Lincoln 2002 Towncar Lthr., prem, sound, AC, 68K, 925-462-2892</p>	<p>MERCEDES OF WALNUT CREEK 900-499-4551</p> <p>MERCEDES 2002 C240 4dr, 4H, 4800, 925-462-2892</p> <p>2002 2002 Mercedes 2002 C240 4dr, 4H, 4800, 925-462-2892</p>	<p>MITSUBISHI 2005 Galant ES Pvr Rntl, CD 925-462-2892</p> <p>HONDA 1982 Civic 1.6L HONDA EL CERRITO 858-318-4000</p> <p>2002 2002 Honda 2002 Civic 1.6L, 4H, 4800, 925-462-2892</p>	<p>SATURN 2002 SL2 Sedan, Automatic CE, 50K, AT, 4800, 925-995-9442</p> <p>SATURN 2002 SL2 Sedan, Automatic CE, 50K, AT, 4800, 925-995-9442</p>	<p>TOYOTA 1999, Sienna, 76K M, \$10,788, 925-462-2892</p> <p>TOYOTA 1999, Sienna, 76K M, \$10,788, 925-462-2892</p>	<p>SAFARI 2002, 4dr, 4800, 925-462-2892</p> <p>SAFARI 2002, 4dr, 4800, 925-462-2892</p>	<p>SAFARI 2002, 4dr, 4800, 925-462-2892</p> <p>SAFARI 2002, 4dr, 4800, 925-462-2892</p>	<p>SAFARI 2002, 4dr, 4800, 925-462-2892</p> <p>SAFARI 2002, 4dr, 4800, 925-462-2892</p>
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FORD 1995 Mustang Conv., PS, AC, P.W., 138731 \$5,995
BOBAC AUTOS
 973-339-9370

HONDA 2002 \$2000
 Civic, AC, PS, tilt,
 ABS, 100000 miles
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INFINITI 1997 I30,
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 White, 4 door, V6,
 New tires, 118K
 miles.
EL CERRITO

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 1227818 \$2,995
MERCEDES 2002 C320
 1227018 \$23,995

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ANTIGUA TOYOTA
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MITSUBISHI 2000 All-
 lander, AC, Alloy's
 4208285 \$17,995
Concord Motors
 766-584-5334

SATURN 2000 SL4
 AC, PL, STK#5924
 2176655 \$7,998
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 766-584-5334

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 AC, PDL, CD, PS, PW
 02-25-01-1721565
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VW 2003 Beette,
 AOD, 100000 Miles,
 Fully loaded;
 415-734-6803

VW 2003,
 Jetta, 28K \$13,995
 DB, 02-25-01-1721565
 766-584-5334

<p>FORD 1992 Taurus AC, PS, ABS, CD, PW \$13,249.95 Call 925-463-7594</p>	<p>HONDA 2001 Accord EX Ltr. mfr., mtr. AC, PS PW #000214 \$12,886 See Habla Escondido (925) 461-8265</p>	<p>INFINITI 1994 Q45A 1700K, excel. cond. \$25,000 Original Owner</p>	<p>MAZDA 2006 Mazdas3 -6K mi, \$16,500 OBO</p>	<p>Mercedes-Benz 2000 2500 5sp, 1994 Call 925-463-7594</p>	<p>Mercedes-Benz 2000 2500 5sp, 1994 Call 925-463-7594</p>
<p>FORD 1978 T-bird. As Is \$1500.00 925-699-8724</p>	<p>HONDA 2001 Accord EX Ltr. mfr., mtr. AC, PS PW #000214 \$12,886 See Habla Escondido (925) 461-8265</p>	<p>INFINITI 1994 Q45A 1700K, excel. cond. \$25,000 Original Owner</p>	<p>MAZDA 2006 Mazdas3 -6K mi, \$16,500 OBO</p>	<p>Mercedes-Benz 2000 2500 5sp, 1994 Call 925-463-7594</p>	<p>Mercedes-Benz 2000 2500 5sp, 1994 Call 925-463-7594</p>
<p>FORD 1966 Thunder- bolt \$1499</p>	<p>HONDA 2001 Accord EX Ltr. mfr., mtr. AC, PS PW #000214 \$12,886 See Habla Escondido (925) 461-8265</p>	<p>INFINITI 1994 Q45A 1700K, excel. cond. \$25,000 Original Owner</p>	<p>MAZDA 2006 Mazdas3 -6K mi, \$16,500 OBO</p>	<p>Mercedes-Benz 2000 2500 5sp, 1994 Call 925-463-7594</p>	<p>Mercedes-Benz 2000 2500 5sp, 1994 Call 925-463-7594</p>

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 <p>ANVICO DODGE Quality Used Trucks 7600769 58.886 888-311-4000</p>	<p>HONDA EL CUBITO 588-311-4000</p>	<p>FOR MORE CARS & TRUCKS</p>	<p>MAZDA 2001 CRV 4x4, AT, PS, AC, PW Extra Clean #006999 \$14,988</p>	<p>MAZDA 2001 CRV 4x4, AT, PS, AC, PW Extra Clean #006999 \$14,988</p>	<p>MAZDA 2001 CRV 4x4, AT, PS, AC, PW Extra Clean #006999 \$14,988</p>	<p>MAZDA 2001 CRV 4x4, AT, PS, AC, PW Extra Clean #006999 \$14,988</p>
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<p>PORTAL 1-800-4-A-TRUCK JL 1-800-4-A-TRUCK</p>	<p>HONDA 2006 Accord Hybrid, V6, CD, AC, PS, 100,000 miles, \$15,995 HONDA OF BERKELEY 866-310-0009</p>	<p>HONDA 2006 Accord EX, AC, PS, V6, 110,000 miles, \$15,995 HONDA OF BERKELEY 866-310-0009</p>	<p>HONDA 2006 Accord EX, AC, PS, V6, 110,000 miles, \$15,995 HONDA OF BERKELEY 866-310-0009</p>	<p>HONDA 2006 Accord EX, AC, PS, V6, 110,000 miles, \$15,995 HONDA OF BERKELEY 866-310-0009</p>	<p>HONDA 2006 Accord EX, AC, PS, V6, 110,000 miles, \$15,995 HONDA OF BERKELEY 866-310-0009</p>
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<p>HONDA BECKLEY 866-310-6009</p> <p>HONDA 2006 Accord EX, CD, Air, PS, 4 Cyl. \$17,699</p> <p>HONDA 2006 Accord VP, CD, AC, PS, 4 Cyl. \$17,699</p>	<p>HONDA 2006 Accord EX, CD, Air, PS, Splr \$19,999</p> <p>HONDA 2006 Civic 1-800-306-1439</p>	<p>QUAR 2003 5-TYPE R Blk w/ chrome wheels excel cond loaded 24k \$35,750.00</p> <p>JAGUAR 2003 5-TYPE S Sport, Midnight, Navi \$35,750.00</p>	<p>cars.com</p> <p>MERCEDES BENZ 2006 E-Class 4dr 3000 MBZ's way below whole</p>	<p>MERCEDES 2002 5430 4dr 5spd, 2008 MERCEDDES OF WALNUT CREEK \$30,900-4500</p> <p>MERCEDES 2002 5500 Navi 4dr 5spd, 2008 Mercedes-Benz \$36,900-4500</p>	<p>NISSAN 2005 350Z Touring At Leather, 13K MI., Must See! \$67361.32 \$28,988</p>	<p>Subaru 2004 5spd, 2008 W/ Alloy, 18K Miles \$96261.70 SOLD</p> <p>Toyota/Walnut Creek 1-800-396-1439</p> <p>SUBARU 2000 Outback 4dr 5spd, 2008 N/A CR 925-864-9704</p>	<p>SUBARU 2004 5spd, 2008 W/ Alloy, 18K Miles \$96261.70 SOLD</p> <p>TOYOTA 1996 CAMRY \$2,200.925-864-6471</p> <p>TOYOTA 1990 Corolla At AC 6 cyl 162k N/A CR 925-864-9704</p>	<p>HONDA BECKLEY 866-310-6009</p>
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#0065799 \$30,988
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Jetta GLS Turbo Clean
28K mi. 3rd row seat
MICHAEL STEAD HEAD
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<p>HONDA 2004 Accord LX, Cert. 1 Owner, 200k mile, #013992, \$17,988 HONDA 2004 Civic LX, 43k mi, excel. cond., #013993, \$16,988 666-310-6009</p> <p>HONDA 2004 Civic, 43k mi, excel. cond., #013994, \$16,988 666-310-6009</p>	<p>HONDA 1995 Prelude AC, 35k PW, #003590, \$8,888 Se Habla Español CALL US TODAY (925) 891-8265 Financing Available</p> <p>HONDA 1993 Civic, On</p>	<p>KIA 2005 Rio AC, PS, PW, 200k #574512 \$27,988 Mercedes-Benz OF CALIFORNIA 925-843-2325</p> <p>KIA 2005 Rio AC, PS, PW, 200k #574512 \$27,988 Mercedes-Benz OF CALIFORNIA 925-843-2325</p> <p>KIA 2005 Rio AC, PS, PW, 200k #574512 \$27,988 Mercedes-Benz OF CALIFORNIA 925-843-2325</p>	<p>Mercedes 2001 E320 AWD #503868 \$25,900 Mercedes-Benz OF CALIFORNIA 800-850-0703</p> <p>Mercedes 2001 E320 AWD #503868 \$25,900 Mercedes-Benz OF CALIFORNIA 800-850-0703</p> <p>Mercedes 2001 E320 AWD #503868 \$25,900 Mercedes-Benz OF CALIFORNIA 800-850-0703</p>	<p>Mercedes 2001 E320 AWD #503868 \$25,900 Mercedes-Benz OF CALIFORNIA 800-850-0703</p> <p>Mercedes 2001 E320 AWD #503868 \$25,900 Mercedes-Benz OF CALIFORNIA 800-850-0703</p> <p>Mercedes 2001 E320 AWD #503868 \$25,900 Mercedes-Benz OF CALIFORNIA 800-850-0703</p>	<p>Mercedes 2001 E320 AWD #503868 \$25,900 Mercedes-Benz OF CALIFORNIA 800-850-0703</p> <p>Mercedes 2001 E320 AWD #503868 \$25,900 Mercedes-Benz OF CALIFORNIA 800-850-0703</p> <p>Mercedes 2001 E320 AWD #503868 \$25,900 Mercedes-Benz OF CALIFORNIA 800-850-0703</p>	<p>Mercedes 2001 E320 AWD #503868 \$25,900 Mercedes-Benz OF CALIFORNIA 800-850-0703</p> <p>Mercedes 2001 E320 AWD #503868 \$25,900 Mercedes-Benz OF CALIFORNIA 800-850-0703</p> <p>Mercedes 2001 E320 AWD #503868 \$25,900 Mercedes-Benz OF CALIFORNIA 800-850-0703</p>	<p>Mercedes 2001 E320 AWD #503868 \$25,900 Mercedes-Benz OF CALIFORNIA 800-850-0703</p> <p>Mercedes 2001 E320 AWD #503868 \$25,900 Mercedes-Benz OF CALIFORNIA 800-850-0703</p> <p>Mercedes 2001 E320 AWD #503868 \$25,900 Mercedes-Benz OF CALIFORNIA 800-850-0703</p>	<p>Mercedes 2001 E320 AWD #503868 \$25,900 Mercedes-Benz OF CALIFORNIA 800-850-0703</p> <p>Mercedes 2001 E320 AWD #503868 \$25,900 Mercedes-Benz OF CALIFORNIA 800-850-0703</p> <p>Mercedes 2001 E320 AWD #503868 \$25,900 Mercedes-Benz OF CALIFORNIA 800-850-0703</p>	<p>Mercedes 2001 E320 AWD #503868 \$25,900 Mercedes-Benz OF CALIFORNIA 800-850-0703</p> <p>Mercedes 2001 E320 AWD #503868 \$25,900 Mercedes-Benz OF CALIFORNIA 800-850-0703</p> <p>Mercedes 2001 E320 AWD #503868 \$25,900 Mercedes-Benz OF CALIFORNIA 800-850-0703</p>	<p>Mercedes 2001 E320 AWD #503868 \$25,900 Mercedes-Benz OF CALIFORNIA 800-850-0703</p> <p>Mercedes 2001 E320 AWD #503868 \$25,900 Mercedes-Benz OF CALIFORNIA 800-850-0703</p> <p>Mercedes 2001 E320 AWD #503868 \$25,900 Mercedes-Benz OF CALIFORNIA 800-850-0703</p>	<p>Mercedes 2001 E320 AWD #503868 \$25,900 Mercedes-Benz OF CALIFORNIA 800-850-0703</p> <p>Mercedes 2001 E320 AWD #503868 \$25,900 Mercedes-Benz OF CALIFORNIA 800-850-0703</p> <p>Mercedes 2001 E320 AWD #503868 \$25,900 Mercedes-Benz OF CALIFORNIA 800-850-0703</p>	<p>Mercedes 2001 E320 AWD #503868 \$25,900 Mercedes-Benz OF CALIFORNIA 800-850-0703</p> <p>Mercedes 2001 E320 AWD #503868 \$25,900 Mercedes-Benz OF CALIFORNIA 800-850-0703</p> <p>Mercedes 2001 E320 AWD #503868 \$25,900 Mercedes-Benz OF CALIFORNIA 800-850-0703</p>	<p>Mercedes 2001 E320 AWD #503868 \$25,900 Mercedes-Benz OF CALIFORNIA 800-850-0703</p> <p>Mercedes 2001 E320 AWD #503868 \$25,900 Mercedes-Benz OF CALIFORNIA 800-850-0703</p> <p>Mercedes 2001 E320 AWD #503868 \$25,900 Mercedes-Benz OF CALIFORNIA 800-850-0703</p>	<p>Mercedes 2001 E320 AWD #503868 \$25,900 Mercedes-Benz OF CALIFORNIA 800-850-0703</p> <p>Mercedes 2001 E320 AWD #503868 \$25,900 Mercedes-Benz OF CALIFORNIA 800-850-0703</p> <p>Mercedes 2001 E320 AWD #503868 \$25,900 Mercedes-Benz OF CALIFORNIA 800-850-0703</p>	<p>Mercedes 2001 E320 AWD #503868 \$25,900 Mercedes-Benz OF CALIFORNIA 800-850-0703</p> <p>Mercedes 2001 E320 AWD #503868 \$25,900 Mercedes-Benz OF CALIFORNIA 800-850-0703</p> <p>Mercedes 2</p>
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Antioch Toyota 1989 Accord, Civic LX, CR, AC, PD, 1.8L, 2.0L, 2.3L, 2.4L, 2.5L, 2.6L, 2.7L, 2.8L, 3.0L, 3.2L, 3.3L, 3.5L, 3.6L, 3.7L, 3.8L, 3.9L, 4.0L, 4.2L, 4.4L, 4.6L, 4.8L, 5.0L, 5.2L, 5.4L, 5.6L, 5.8L, 6.0L, 6.2L, 6.4L, 6.6L, 6.8L, 7.0L, 7.2L, 7.4L, 7.6L, 7.8L, 8.0L, 8.2L, 8.4L, 8.6L, 8.8L, 9.0L, 9.2L, 9.4L, 9.6L, 9.8L, 10.0L, 10.2L, 10.4L, 10.6L, 10.8L, 11.0L, 11.2L, 11.4L, 11.6L, 11.8L, 12.0L, 12.2L, 12.4L, 12.6L, 12.8L, 13.0L, 13.2L, 13.4L, 13.6L, 13.8L, 14.0L, 14.2L, 14.4L, 14.6L, 14.8L, 15.0L, 15.2L, 15.4L, 15.6L, 15.8L, 16.0L, 16.2L, 16.4L, 16.6L, 16.8L, 17.0L, 17.2L, 17.4L, 17.6L, 17.8L, 18.0L, 18.2L, 18.4L, 18.6L, 18.8L, 19.0L, 19.2L, 19.4L, 19.6L, 19.8L, 20.0L, 20.2L, 20.4L, 20.6L, 20.8L, 21.0L, 21.2L, 21.4L, 21.6L, 21.8L, 22.0L, 22.2L, 22.4L, 22.6L, 22.8L, 23.0L, 23.2L, 23.4L, 23.6L, 23.8L, 24.0L, 24.2L, 24.4L, 24.6L, 24.8L, 25.0L, 25.2L, 25.4L, 25.6L, 25.8L, 26.0L, 26.2L, 26.4L, 26.6L, 26.8L, 27.0L, 27.2L, 27.4L, 27.6L, 27.8L, 28.0L, 28.2L, 28.4L, 28.6L, 28.8L, 29.0L, 29.2L, 29.4L, 29.6L, 29.8L, 30.0L, 30.2L, 30.4L, 30.6L, 30.8L, 31.0L, 31.2L, 31.4L, 31.6L, 31.8L, 32.0L, 32.2L, 32.4L, 32.6L, 32.8L, 33.0L, 33.2L, 33.4L, 33.6L, 33.8L, 34.0L, 34.2L, 34.4L, 34.6L, 34.8L, 35.0L, 35.2L, 35.4L, 35.6L, 35.8L, 36.0L, 36.2L, 36.4L, 36.6L, 36.8L, 37.0L, 37.2L, 37.4L, 37.6L, 37.8L, 38.0L, 38.2L, 38.4L, 38.6L, 38.8L, 39.0L, 39.2L, 39.4L, 39.6L, 39.8L, 40.0L, 40.2L, 40.4L, 40.6L, 40.8L, 41.0L, 41.2L, 41.4L, 41.6L, 41.8L, 42.0L, 42.2L, 42.4L, 42.6L, 42.8L, 43.0L, 43.2L, 43.4L, 43.6L, 43.8L, 44.0L, 44.2L, 44.4L, 44.6L, 44.8L, 45.0L, 45.2L, 45.4L, 45.6L, 45.8L, 46.0L, 46.2L, 46.4L, 46.6L, 46.8L, 47.0L, 47.2L, 47.4L, 47.6L, 47.8L, 48.0L, 48.2L, 48.4L, 48.6L, 48.8L, 49.0L, 49.2L, 49.4L, 49.6L, 49.8L, 50.0L, 50.2L, 50.4L, 50.6L, 50.8L, 51.0L, 51.2L, 51.4L, 51.6L, 51.8L, 52.0L, 52.2L, 52.4L, 52.6L, 52.8L, 53.0L, 53.2L, 53.4L, 53.6L, 53.8L, 54.0L, 54.2L, 54.4L, 54.6L, 54.8L, 55.0L, 55.2L, 55.4L, 55.6L, 55.8L, 56.0L, 56.2L, 56.4L, 56.6L, 56.8L, 57.0L, 57.2L, 57.4L, 57.6L, 57.8L, 58.0L, 58.2L, 58.4L, 58.6L, 58.8L, 59.0L, 59.2L, 59.4L, 59.6L, 59.8L, 60.0L, 60.2L, 60.4L, 60.6L, 60.8L, 61.0L, 61.2L, 61.4L, 61.6L, 61.8L, 62.0L, 62.2L, 62.4L, 62.6L, 62.8L, 63.0L, 63.2L, 63.4L, 63.6L, 63.8L, 64.0L, 64.2L, 64.4L, 64.6L, 64.8L, 65.0L, 65.2L, 65.4L, 65.6L, 65.8L, 66.0L, 66.2L, 66.4L, 66.6L, 66.8L, 67.0L, 67.2L, 67.4L, 67.6L, 67.8L, 68.0L, 68.2L, 68.4L, 68.6L, 68.8L, 69.0L, 69.2L, 69.4L, 69.6L, 69.8L, 70.0L, 70.2L, 70.4L, 70.6L, 70.8L, 71.0L, 71.2L, 71.4L, 71.6L, 71.8L, 72.0L, 72.2L, 72.4L, 72.6L, 72.8L, 73.0L, 73.2L, 73.4L, 73.6L, 73.8L, 74.0L, 74.2L, 74.4L, 74.6L, 74.8L, 75.0L, 75.2L, 75.4L, 75.6L, 75.8L, 76.0L, 76.2L, 76.4L, 76.6L, 76.8L, 77.0L, 77.2L, 77.4L, 77.6L, 77.8L, 78.0L, 78.2L, 78.4L, 78.6L, 78.8L, 79.0L, 79.2L, 79.4L, 79.6L, 79.8L, 80.0L, 80.2L, 80.4L, 80.6L, 80.8L, 81.0L, 81.2L, 81.4L, 81.6L, 81.8L, 82.0L, 82.2L, 82.4L, 82.6L, 82.8L, 83.0L, 83.2L, 83.4L, 83.6L, 83.8L, 84.0L, 84.2L, 84.4L, 84.6L, 84.8L, 85.0L, 85.2L, 85.4L, 85.6L, 85.8L, 86.0L, 86.2L, 86.4L, 86.6L, 86.8L, 87.0L, 87.2L, 87.4L, 87.6L, 87.8L, 88.0L, 88.2L, 88.4L, 88.6L, 88.8L, 89.0L, 89.2L, 89.4L, 89.6L, 89.8L, 90.0L, 90.2L, 90.4L, 90.6L, 90.8L, 91.0L, 91.2L, 91.4L, 91.6L, 91.8L, 92.0L, 92.2L, 92.4L, 92.6L, 92.8L, 93.0L, 93.2L, 93.4L, 93.6L, 93.8L, 94.0L, 94.2L, 94.4L, 94.6L, 94.8L, 95.0L, 95.2L, 95.4L, 95.6L, 95.8L, 96.0L, 96.2L, 96.4L, 96.6L, 96.8L, 97.0L, 97.2L, 97.4L, 97.6L, 97.8L, 98.0L, 98.2L, 98.4L, 98.6L, 98.8L, 99.0L, 99.2L, 99.4L, 99.6L, 99.8L, 100.0L, 100.2L, 100.4L, 100.6L, 100.8L, 101.0L, 101.2L, 101.4L, 101.6L, 101.8L, 102.0L, 102.2L, 102.4L, 102.6L, 102.8L, 103.0L, 103.2L, 103.4L, 103.6L, 103.8L, 104.0L, 104.2L, 104.4L, 104.6L, 104.8L, 105.0L, 105.2L, 105.4L, 105.6L, 105.8L, 106.0L, 106.2L, 106.4L, 106.6L, 106.8L, 107.0L, 107.2L, 107.4L, 107.6L, 107.8L, 108.0L, 108.2L, 108.4L, 108.6L, 108.8L, 109.0L, 109.2L, 109.4L, 109.6L, 109.8L, 110.0L, 110.2L, 110.4L, 110.6L, 110.8L, 111.0L, 111.2L, 111.4L, 111.6L, 111.8L, 112.0L, 112.2L, 112.4L, 112.6L, 112.8L, 113.0L, 113.2L, 113.4L, 113.6L, 113.8L, 114.0L, 114.2L, 114.4L, 114.6L, 114.8L, 115.0L, 115.2L,

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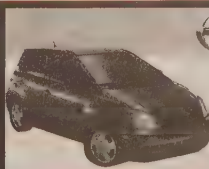
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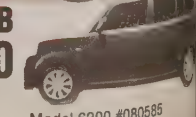
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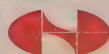


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Lifestyle

Union of Hills Newspapers/East Bay Daily News

Advertising Supplement

Friday, June 2, 2006

Architect, designer create wish, eco-friendly home

By HOLLY HAYES

When construction jobs, project manager and architect are all in one, the design process is a breeze. That's how the 2,400-square-foot Idea House came together.

However, Misskelley is still thinking about how to build the 2,400-square-foot house that has gone up this summer. It's a steel-plate foundation in the heart of the magazine's Menlo Park headquarters.

When this summer, the house was taken apart and moved to its permanent home a couple of miles away. It was assembled atop a new foundation of 2,000-square-foot base-

ment. Misskelley continues to face the various perils of that aspect of the project, he and the rest of the team have had their hands full.

The finishing touches on one of the most distinctive Idea House features.

Innovation in the use of materials is a lot of stuff that's immediately apparent. All the walls are made of a mix of materials, some of which have been built into the structure.

The house is built on a pre-cut concrete base, which was assembled on site. The house is built on a pre-cut concrete base, which was assembled on site.

and create a space that is efficient and more resistant to earthquake, fire and insect damage. A house like the Idea House could cost about \$225 per square foot to build.

Inside, the house hugs the hillside, welcoming the sun every turn. Henry Siegel used his own Sonoma County, Calif., retreat as the inspiration for the Idea House. Its centerpiece is a pass-through breezeway that at the same time unifies the two living areas.

On the side of the breezeway - the "dog trot" - is the living area, kitchen, half bathroom and reading nook. On the other side are the guest room/office, bedroom and the master bedroom with its own bathroom.

Access to the private courtyard is through a series of steps. Designer Chad De Witt designed the home with textures and materials that are sophisticated and easy to maintain their green.

At a sixth-generation California architecture and design school, the College of the Siskiyous, Misskelley has been into vintage pieces with a modern twist. In the living/dining area, a Scandinavian chair from the '50s looks like a modern piece, according to the hip, according to the hip, according to the hip.

Table in white oak. The green crushed quartz countertops are accented with a splash of Heath Ceramics, whose modern designs go back to Edith Heath in the 1920s.

There are no new ideas. Just old ones. "I've been thinking about this for a long time," says De Witt, who

collects old Sunset decorating books. "You flip through the pages of these books and you see timeless design. A lot of the feel of what you see in the Idea House is classic California vernacular design."

Today's designers, of course, have a vastly expanded palette of materials from which to choose. In the kids' bath, bright blue rubber floor tiles are used as a backsplash that's as fun as it is easy to wipe clean. Bathroom countertops and shower surrounds are clad in a new material made of 60 percent scrap aluminum set in resin. Shower panels and cabinet insets are made of a translucent resin that is lighter in weight - and safer - than glass. Some versions have pieces of textile embedded in the resin.

One of the most distinctive finishes in the Idea House is on the fireplace, where the warm, honey-colored concrete has been mixed with rice hulls. Designers used the imprint of eucalyptus leaves to add visual interest.

De Witt and the design team have mixed their materials with abandon, and yet it all seems to work together harmoniously.

The hearth and reading nook areas are framed in white oak, which provides a startling contrast to the wide-plank hickory flooring dressed up with a dark stain.

The kitchen cabinets are smooth maple with metal "fabric" inserts. In the guest room/office, ultra-contemporary aluminum and white oak modular cabinets march up the walls, while a platform bed and side table made of bamboo anchor the center.

In the master bath, reclaimed teak counters look rich and earthy. And the enormous barn doors that slide on a metal track to close off the bedroom wing are made of reclaimed Douglas fir.

Fade-resistant fabrics that usually see duty outdoors have been brought inside to be hung by clips on simple stainless steel rods. The fabrics also have been stitched into covers for large cushions in the reading nook. The master bedroom walls are covered in a grass cloth that has been hand-blocked with images of a ginkgo leaf, a nod to the Arts and Crafts designers of the early part of the last century. The motif is repeated in the drapery panels on the French doors.

Outside, most of what looks like wood isn't. The nearly 2,000 square feet of decking - and the railings, and the post-toppers - are made of a composite material with a made-you-look-twice wood grain. On a raised garden bed, Sunset senior home writer Peter O. Whiteley has used precast concrete to create a stacked-wall look. The "wrought iron" fencing is made of a polymer material. And even the grass isn't grass.

"The synthetic lawn grows perfectly on asphalt," says Whiteley of the parking-lot installation.

And it will be easy to roll up once the public has trooped through and the Idea House is loaded in pieces to be trucked to its permanent home.



RICK E. MARTIN/SAN JOSE MERCURY NEWS/KRT

CALLED the "Celebration Idea House," this home is designed to showcase the future of construction technology. It's being built using structural insulated panels that are three times more insulating than wood framing and also more durable and more resistant to earthquake, fire and insect damage.



RICK E. MARTIN/SAN JOSE MERCURY NEWS/KRT

THIS GUEST BEDROOM/OFFICE is featured in Sunset magazine with the theme, "Celebration Idea House," and has clean, simple lines. It is in Menlo Park.



RICK E. MARTIN/SAN JOSE MERCURY NEWS/KRT

THE FIREPLACE IS MADE OF cast concrete. Rice hulls and local eucalyptus leaves were used to create the pattern. See eucalyptus leaf pattern in inset.



RICK E. MARTIN/SAN JOSE MERCURY NEWS/KRT

THE MASTER BATH features reclaimed teak countertops in the "Celebration Idea House."

Coffee 101: Lessons from brewing school

BY ERICA DIETSCH
THE RECORD

I love everything about coffee — that is, everything except the sky-high prices. Sick of making bad coffee at home and tired of paying lots of money for someone else to make it for me, I jumped at the chance to learn from people who make coffee for a living. Surely the coffee they make at home doesn't taste like sludge.

Now, having learned my lessons at Brewing School, I feel almost as talented as a barista.

If only they could teach me how to give myself enough time in the morning to prepare it.

Lesson 1

You can try this at home.

Customers at Starbucks in Edgewater, N.J., frequently complain to store manager Milton Velez that they can't make a good cup of coffee. They're just missing a key step, he says: "You can't make great coffee until you know what great coffee is."

A true coffee master whose eyes light up while discussing his favorite drink, Velez sports the coveted black Starbucks apron. That's the reward for passing a rigorous coffee exam administered by district manager Mieke Fonteyn. The two were so determined to teach me all about great coffee that they let me wear one, too.

We used a coffee press to prepare samples because it does not use a paper filter. Apparently, the fibers in paper absorb flavorful oils and thus interfere with the combining of the grind and the water.

But you don't have to use a press at home. Some newer coffeemakers have a gold cone filter that eliminates the need for paper. Aside from allowing your coffee to be more flavorful, they are environmentally friendly and last two years.

Lesson 2

The four fundamentals: proportion, grind, water and freshness.

Two tablespoons of coffee should be used for every six ounces of water.

"People are usually shocked by the amount of grind that this turns out to be," Velez said, "but not using enough grind will impact the final result."

When using a press, the grind should be coarse. This forces the water to extract as much flavor as possible. A finer grind, normally used for espresso, allows the wa-

ter to pass through the press too easily and will result in a weak taste. A drip coffeemaker, however, will accommodate any size grind.

Since water is 98 percent of your cup of coffee, the better the quality of water, the better the taste. Velez recommends bottled water. Second best is filtered tap water. Heat the water to just below boiling; the ideal temperature for brewing is 199 degrees to 201 degrees Fahrenheit.

Freshness is critical. Opened ground coffee should be kept in an airtight container far away from sunlight and should be discarded after seven days.

"Would you keep a loaf of bread for seven days? People should think of coffee in the same way," Fonteyn said.

Whole beans in a sealed package stay good indefinitely, but the second the bag is opened, moisture in the air causes the coffee to begin to "brew."

Once all these factors are taken into consideration, allow the coffee to brew for four minutes if using a press. Otherwise, the coffeemaker's normal brewing cycle will suffice.

Lesson 3

Chew on your brew.

Tasting involves four steps: smell, slurp, identify and describe. No milk or sugar allowed!

While I cupped my nose with one hand and held the small cup with the other, Velez instructed me to take in the aroma. (It smelled like coffee!) Once my olfactory nodes were satisfied, Velez instructed me to slurp.

Slurp? Was he serious? "Slurping allows the taste of the coffee to permeate your mouth and linger, allowing you to consider the aftertaste and the overall experience," Velez explained, noticing my trepidation.

Though somewhat awkward and definitely not ladylike, slurping did allow me to "identify" the nuttiness, fruitiness and overall strength of the three blends of coffee sampled (and trust me, I'm no foodie or drinkie).

It's best to begin your slurping and tasting with a milder brew, like a coffee from Latin America, and work your way toward the stronger flavors in Asian coffees so as not to overwhelm your senses.

The last step required me to describe each sample so that I'd remember how it's supposed to taste when I make it myself.

Throughout the process, Velez encouraged me to sample bits of chocolate cupcake before the cof-

fee aftertaste left my mouth. I was much more amenable to this than slurping.

Flavors like chocolate serve to enhance the taste of coffee, allowing the taster to better understand the experience. It's also a great excuse to eat chocolate.

No matter what accompanying treat you choose, be sure it's complimentary: Orange slices are to be avoided.

Lesson 4

Tips and tricks of the trade.

Velez explained that bad coffee is most often the result of one of the above steps gone awry.

If you do use a filter, make sure it is a real filter and not a paper towel, which absorbs almost all the flavor of the grind.

Another common problem is the cleanliness of the coffeemaker. Try using a cup of water and a cup of vinegar to loosen the calcium deposits that may be clogging the drip.

Make sure to run water through once again to rid future brews of any lingering vinegar. This process should be done every three months.

Making espresso and latte

"Espresso" implies a fine grind and high-pressure steam preparation rather than a particular kind of coffee.

If you want to make espresso at home, it will cost you. A good machine costs anywhere from a few hundred to a few thousand dollars, depending on its features.

Technically, any type of coffee can be used, although "mild coffees don't taste good as espresso," says Milton Velez, manager of Starbucks in Edgewater, N.J. He suggests experimenting with different coffees.

No matter what you select, use the finest possible grind or a disposable "pod," which saves you from having to grind the beans yourself.

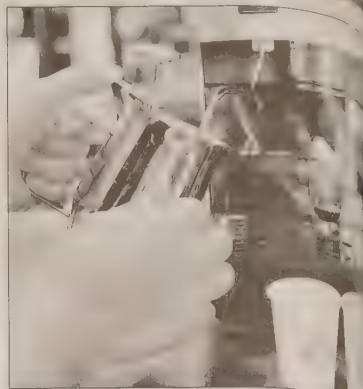
Espresso, made properly, should have three distinct layers. The bottom of the drink is called the shot, the middle is the body, and the top is the crema.

The crema is the make-or-

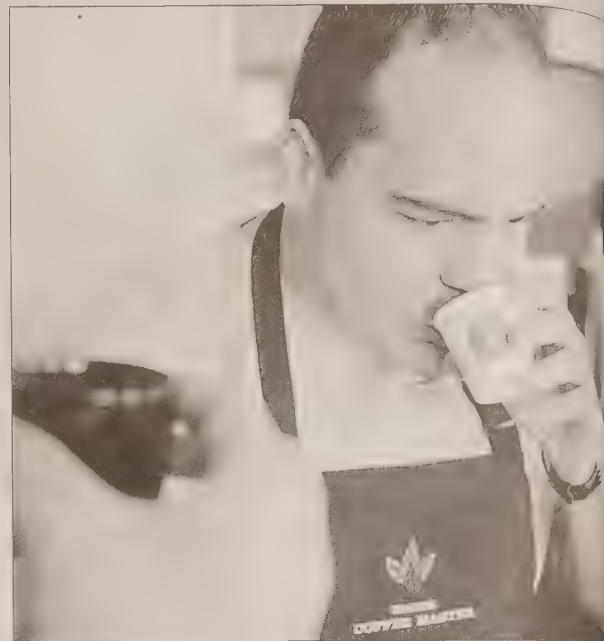
break part of the drink. The oils, which provide much of the flavor, rise to the top but evaporate quickly. If you don't see any crema on top, the grind wasn't fine enough or your machine did not use enough pressure.

Want to turn your espresso into a latte? All you need to do is steam some milk.

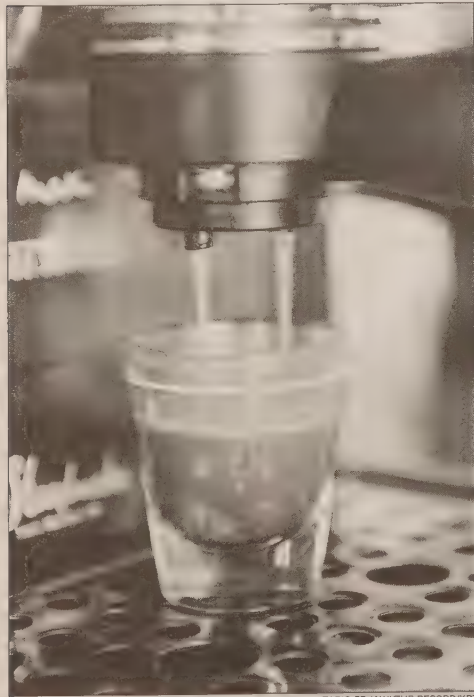
Pour almost a quart of milk into a heat-safe container and put the espresso machine's nozzle at the surface. Hold it there until the temperature reaches 160 degrees. Hold back the foam with a spoon and pour the milk over the espresso. Top off your drink with the leftover foam.



VELEZ STEAMS MILK for a latte.



MILTON VELEZ, Edgewater Starbucks Coffee store manager, displays the proper way to get the full flavor.



AN ESPRESSO IS IN THE MAKING at the Starbucks in Edgewater, N.J.



ERICA DIETSCH, left, learns to marry flavors of coffee with chocolate, at the Starbucks in Edgewater, N.J.

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CAESAR SNOW
The salad has spoiled Caesar. The salad bowl, it has been by fame. It has been underachiever, compared to commercial dressings. It is itself with flashy but not glamorous.

Caesar used to be glamorous. It was born in 1924 in a restaurant in Tijuana, Mexico. In the 1970s, it dripped with olive oil. It made it to the mainstream through fancy restaurants from the 1970s to the 1990s. For the home cook, the wooden salad bowl is the sign of a party.

Parties in small-town America in the 1950s through the 1970s assembled Caesar salad. The salad was a pomp and pretentious affair. A cut lemon was used to make a dressing. The dressing was a mixture of cheese, oil, and a pinch of salt. Some hosts explained the salad with a knife. The salad was to be brown. The salad was to be a sign of a party.

Some before any old Joe. Caesar salad at a fast-food restaurant. It was before the salad was topped with chicken. Caesar salad is the most prevalent salad on restaurant menus in the United States, according to the National Chicken Council. The salad is a sign of a party.

Caesar salad is not kind to the stomach. Many of the complaints are bad imitations. A real Caesar salad is a mixture of lettuce, fresh cheese, and fresh dressing. The dressing is made right in the bowl with fresh-squeezed lemon juice, extra-virgin olive oil, and a pinch of salt. The salad is a sign of a party.



THIS CAESAR SALAD topped with grilled chicken breast has become a popular chicken item on restaurant menus in the United States.

most-raw egg, use a pasteurized in-shell egg (Davidson's is the lone brand on the market) or a pasteurized beaten-egg product from the dairy case. One-fourth cup equals one egg.

In our classic recipe, the dressing is made in the salad bowl, the chicken is grilled and the croutons are homemade. In our shortcut recipe, the chicken is sautéed instead of grilled, and to speed up the cooking even more, the meat is butterflied. "Butterflying" means cutting the meat in half horizontally to reduce its thickness and out the cooking time. Butterflying boneless breasts is tricky when the meat is raw and jiggy, but easy after the meat firms up slightly during cooking.

We also cut time by mashing the dressing ingredients together in a zipper-lock plastic bag, and using good-quality purchased croutons instead of homemade.

In our fastest version of the recipe, we replaced the raw chicken with precooked chicken strips and the homemade dressing with bottled dressing. Even in this version, quality ingredients are essential — maybe even more so. Use the kind of pre-grated Parmesan sold in the dairy case, not the dry, flavorless stuff in a shaker can on a shelf next to the pasta. Don't buy those tiny, rock-hard nuggets that pass for croutons. Recently, several companies have introduced "restaurant quality" croutons that are larger, fresher and more flavorful.

Bottled Caesar dressings can

be OK or dreadful, depending on the brand. Try a few to find the one you like. Although none can compare to homemade, our favorite commercial brand was Ken's Steak House Lite Caesar. It isn't as thick and creamy as some of the others we tried, but it did have a faint anchovy tang and a comparatively muted chemical aftertaste.

The next time you're tempted to go out for a chicken Caesar salad, try one of these recipes instead.

BEST CHICKEN CAESAR SALAD

- 2 cloves garlic
- 6 tablespoons olive oil
- 4 ounces sturdy bread, cut into 1-inch cubes
- 2 boneless, skinless chicken breast halves
- 1 tablespoon soy sauce
- Salt, pepper
- 5 anchovy fillets
- 1 tablespoon fresh lemon juice
- 1 tablespoon oil from anchovy tin
- 1 teaspoon dry mustard
- 1 egg (preferably pasteurized),

boiled for 90 seconds

- 1 to 1 1/2 heads romaine lettuce (8 cups torn leaves)
- 1/4 cup fresh-grated Parmesan cheese

Mash 1 clove garlic into 3 tablespoons of the oil and set aside for several hours. Up to a day in advance, drizzle the garlic-flavored oil over the bread cubes in a bowl, tossing to coat evenly. Spread in a single layer on a baking sheet. Bake at 350 degrees for about 15 minutes, until croutons are light brown. Cool, then store in a zipper-lock plastic bag.

About 30 minutes before serving, light a charcoal fire. Flatten chicken breasts slightly to an even thickness. Rub on both sides with 1 tablespoon of the olive oil and the soy sauce. Season with salt and pepper.

When the coals have ashed over, spread them evenly in the grill. Cook the chicken uncovered over

the charcoal for about 8 to 10 minutes, turning once, or until no longer pink in the center.

While chicken cooks, mash 1 clove garlic and the anchovies into remaining 2 tablespoons olive oil in a large bowl. Stir in 1/4 teaspoon salt, lemon juice, anchovy oil and dry mustard. Mash in egg until smooth.

Wash and drain romaine. With hands, tear off and discard the limp leaves at the top of the head (about the top one-fourth of the head). Tear the rest of the stalks into bite-sized

chunks and toss in the bowl with the dressing. Add Parmesan and croutons and toss again. Mound on two dinner plates. Top each portion with a grilled chicken breast. Makes 2 servings.

SHORT-CUT CHICKEN CAESAR SALAD

- 2 boneless, skinless chicken breast halves
- 1 tablespoon soy sauce
- Salt, pepper
- 3 tablespoons olive oil
- 1 clove garlic, minced
- 1 tablespoon fresh lemon juice
- 1 teaspoon dry mustard
- 1 pasteurized egg, boiled for 90 seconds
- 5 anchovy fillets
- 1 tablespoon oil from anchovy tin
- 1 bag (10 oz.) torn romaine lettuce
- 1/4 cup pre-grated Parmesan
- 15-ounce bag (or slightly less) "restaurant-quality" croutons

Trim any fat from chicken. Rub all over with the soy sauce. Season on both sides with salt and pepper. Heat 1 tablespoon oil in a medium skillet over high heat. When hot, brown chicken for about 1 minute on each side.

Remove chicken from skillet and cut breasts in halves horizontally almost all the way through, leaving a portion attached at one side. Spread the two halves apart and place raw sides down in the hot skillet. Continue cooking until no longer pink in the center of the meat, about 3 to 4 minutes.

Meanwhile, in a small zipper-lock bag combine remaining 2 tablespoons olive oil, minced garlic, 1/4 teaspoon salt, lemon juice, mustard, egg, anchovy fillets and anchovy oil. With hands or a rolling pin, work the mixture until anchovies are mashed to bits and the mixture is smooth.

Just before serving, pour dressing over lettuce in a large bowl and toss. Add Parmesan and croutons and toss again. Mound on two dinner plates. Top with grilled chicken. Makes 2 servings.

FASTEST CHICKEN CAESAR SALAD

- 1 bag (10 ounces) torn romaine lettuce
- 1/4 cup commercial Caesar salad dressing
- 1/4 cup good-quality pre-grated Parmesan cheese
- 15-ounce bag (or slightly less) "restaurant quality" croutons
- Salt
- 2 packages (6 ounces each) fully cooked chicken breast strips

Toss lettuce in a bowl with dressing. Add cheese, croutons and salt to taste. Toss again.

Slit open plastic bags containing chicken breast strips. Microwave in bags on high power for about 2 minutes, until hot. Mound salad on two plates and top with chicken. Makes 2 servings.

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A great closet is more than just a place to stash clothes

BY KATHRYN WEXLER
KNIGHT RIDDER NEWSPAPERS

It certainly wasn't what Virginia Woolf had in mind.

When the writer coined the famous phrase, "A room of one's own," in a lecture at Cambridge in 1928, she was addressing a woman's need for space and opportunity if her intellectual life was to flourish.

Well, Ginny, we got the room, all right — though it's usually just a cubical.

Today we need a new type of room of our own. A place for quiet reflection and self-actualization before we log on to a hyper-connected world.

Hello, closet!

A closet is where lovers aren't welcome, where children shouldn't play and where even maids have very little business. It's a place to hide secrets, savor flimsy, lovely things or unhook a work-day uniform.

It's a sacred space.

Hello Campos went one better. When she built her Miami house several years ago, she turned her closet into a fortress.

"It's a hurricane shelter," said Campos, perched on the moving ladder she uses to reach the second story of her walk-in closet — one of two, actually. "It's all concrete."

The upper tier is where she keeps formal gowns and luggage. It's also where she stores the mink, fox and chinchilla, cooled by an air-conditioning vent a few inches away.

Down below are the gossamer blouses, the Dolce & Gabbana getups, the La Perla underthings she keeps tucked into their own Ziploc bags so she can grab them and go for a jaunt to Sao Paulo or St. Tropez.

"I'm very proud of my closet because I feel happy when I look for things," said Campos, originally from Brazil.

As it turns out, bad weather has never caused her to hunker down among her beloved boots and bags. But sometimes she takes shelter there anyway.

"If it's a day when I'm very up, I just go," said Campos, who has designed clothing. "But if I'm a little blue, hours and hours. I try things

on, I put them here," she said, gesturing to a shelf. "I try other things."

The closet off Saskia Galliano-Touret's bedroom can't honestly be called a closet.

Really it's a boudoir, a place meant for primping, bathing and basking in the cherry-hued light that stained glass windows throw across the Opera Fantastico marble floor.

But it wasn't for glory that Touret built the space. It was for intimacy.

"It's supposed to be a nice, cozy, little place," said Touret. "My husband has his office. My office is my bathroom. It's where I keep my sanity."

Black blouses go on the top rack. Below are skirts and jeans. The drawers of her custom-built oak dressers are each devoted to a particular item: strappy shoes, whimsical hair clips, African beaded jewelry.

Simply entering the space is itself a reprieve, said Touret, a former manager at L'Oreal.

"It's a ritual," she said. "You go in and you're going to spend some time. I could go in and get dressed and not even go out."

Turning a closet into a sanctuary doesn't require running water or skilled labor.

"I always rent," said Catalina Rojas. "So I pick up what's already there and adopt it."

Rojas thinks her fondness for the space comes from tender memories of her grandmother's *armoire* in Chile. "It was the like the treasure place in her bedroom. You could hide in there. It was small, but she had things like chocolates in there," she said.

Through the years, she has used her closets as work spaces, housing her desk and computer, and stationery tools. At one time she found it to be the perfect, quiet place for her napping infant.

These days, Rojas has a closet as big as a queen-size bed, where she has pictures and all her necklaces on display. "I love to hang out in it."

Closets lend themselves to intimate personalization that other areas of the home might not, said Rosalyn Cherry, a professional organizer for 11 years in New York City. "If you share a space with someone, it has

to be more of a combined imprint," she said.

Of course, closet organizers hate clutter. They want you to pitch anything you can't wear right now or don't want to. For Rojas, though, it's exactly the things that aren't practical that make her closet feel so special.

"I keep in there the things, if I ever had to leave, the things I would take with me. Photos when I was little. My earrings. Hidden things," she said.

"I also have all my bags in there, everything that I wear, of course." That's the other thing about closets. They hold your clothes.

Tips

■ To make your closet more personal, try some touches that have worked for others:

■ Hang photos.

■ Keep perfumes there so the space smells like you do.

■ Display items at the front of your closet because you love them, not necessarily because you wear them.

■ Paint the interior a whimsical color.

■ Keep your under-garments and pj's in your closet so you can get fully dressed inside.

Organization

If all you really want is to streamline your closet, Lisa Lennard, project development manager for the franchise California Closets, which customizes closets, has these tips:

■ "Go through the closet and get rid of everything that doesn't have to be there," she said. "The first step to feeling comfortable is getting rid of the clutter. You have to be tough with yourself."

■ Organize space according to categories; dress pants in one area — jeans in another.

■ Put bulkier items like jackets or vests on the bottom rack of a double-decker section, and slimmer items like slacks on top. "It sometimes seems opposite to how you would wear them, but it opens up the space."

■ Hang hats on hooks attached to the wall — if you've got one heluva walk-in closet.



HELLO CAMPOS IS PICTURED in one of her two-story closets in her Pinecrest, Fla. home.



HELLO CAMPOS' COLLECTION OF GLASSES and shoes is shown in one of her two-story closets.



SASKIA TOURET HAS NEATLY ORGANIZED closets with her accessories from around the world, as shown at her Key Biscayne, Fla., home.

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Business is booming for professional organizers

GAIL APPELSON
ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH

Debbie Murphy, a former business manager at Ralston Purina, thought of herself as an organized person. That was until she and her husband moved into a new home they were about to renovate. A child and Murphy's mother became seriously ill. "I turned into chaos," said Murphy. "I was an organized person and I lost control." Murphy hired a professional organizer in late 2004. The organizer learned that this was not Murphy's fault. So later, Murphy turned around and hired the organizer as an assistant.



DEBBIE MURPHY, LEFT, A PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZER from The Art of Organizing Inc., finds a brand-new, unused organizer in the basement owned and filled to capacity by Tracey Stissler, right, in St. Louis, Mo.

She is definitely a dynamic family member that does things," said Abby Garvey, a professional organizer. "I was raised to feel like throwing things away. Professional organizers bring order to the situation." Garvey, who works out of her home as a business consultant, said that there were months' worth of papers that someone else had packed for her.

der, age or socioeconomic boundary. "It is everywhere." Lori Bickel, president of the St. Louis chapter of NAPO, said that about 20 people have expressed interest in joining. However, there are many more entrepreneurs whose names only surface through word of mouth referrals and Web site searches. "We found out that advertising doesn't necessarily work," said Bickel, who started Sort It Out (www.sortitoutstlouis.com) two years ago with her friend Claire Keeling. Television improvement shows such as TLC's "Clean Sweep" have

given the profession a big boost, in part by making it socially acceptable, even trendy, to call an organizer. "TV makes it OK to ask for help," Garvey said. While television has been key in getting the word out, organizers said it also has given potential clients false expectations about how fast a closet, room or house can be straightened out. While a closet could take a full day, rooms and houses can take weeks and months. "It (television) helps the public know what we do, but it may also lead to the misunderstanding that

we can do it in a day, and that we have a cute carpenter," Bickel said. Cost is something else to consider as most organizers charge by the hour, not by the project. In the St. Louis area, for example, many organizers charge about \$50 an hour. Bickel and Keeling are at the high end, billing \$150 an hour if they work together, while Murphy's fee is \$25 an hour. Sometimes, however, clients are so desperate for help that fees are not an issue. Organizers say they often get calls from individuals who have been overwhelmed by such traumas as a move, illness or a death in the family.

A case in point is Hunter Torres, who got sick just before she and her husband moved from Chicago to St. Louis last year. Torres, who works out of her home as a business consultant, said that there were months' worth of papers that someone else had packed for her. Torres' mother stepped in and found Garvey through her Web site www.simplify101.com. "We were people in need of an external resource," Torres said. "We're both high achievers, but we really needed help getting things together. We couldn't possibly have done all of this on our own."

She said Garvey's corporate management background has been useful in helping her organize her home office. "She has helped me think about how to manage my time and goals." Some organizers tend to focus on managing paperwork and developing home office systems, while others stick to straightening out households. Murphy, for example, does not like to sort through papers. Instead, she leans toward figuring out where to put shelves, finding logical places for dishes, light bulbs and extension cords, packing and unpacking heavy boxes, and even lugging large bags of garbage out to dumpsters. "It's definitely hard work," she said. "I come home with bruises." Some organizers will not work with clients they describe as "chronically disorganized individuals." Mary Kutheis, a Kirkwood, Mo., organizer who sits on the board of the National Study Group on Chronic Disorganization, explained that chronically disorganized individuals are often hoarders. They fill their homes with empty yogurt cartons, margarine tubs and other types of trash. Kutheis, who specializes in helping companies improve employee productivity, advises that professional organizers work in tandem with a therapist in such cases. "It's unlikely a professional organizer can fix that (hoarding). They can sometimes make some inroads but these are deep serious psychological issues," she said. Organizers see part of their job as being counselors to their cluttered clients. "We had a client tell us that 90 percent of our job was psychology and 10 percent is organizing," Bickel said. Garvey agreed, saying that organizers are empathetic. "You have to put yourself in your clients' shoes to understand why they are struggling with what they are struggling," Garvey said. Murphy said she was prepared by her own experiences and has a passion to help people in similar situations. "I've been an organized person but I've also lost it. I can really understand because I've been there."

tips for creating a fun and functional hobby area

AMANDA KNOLES
RULERS' EDGE

Families have several members pursue hobbies. Your husband collects stamps or coins, you enjoy scrap booking or quilting. You may have a couple of pretenses in the house to construct model cars or jigsaw puzzles. In most cases hobby supplies get haphazardly in a closet or under a bed. Good-intentioned folks may workable in the garage, but since it's covered with loose bicycle parts and window blinds, the surface of the work space is not exactly around your home for art might be suitable for a space. A small guestroom for a table and shelves is ideal, but you may have to tuck a corner of the kitchen,

family room or a large hallway. Do you have a utility room or closet that is underutilized or crammed full of useless junk? Taking the time to clear it out could yield the perfect spot for a hobby nook. ■ When there's no space available indoors for a hobby area, try to create a useable space in the garage. Sometimes working in a garage can be more peaceful since there is less activity and noise from household activities. If you love to paint or draw you might consider setting up a gazebo in your backyard and store art supplies under a bench or in a weatherproof storage bin. ■ Gather all your hobby supplies and tools together and take inventory of what you have. Make a trip to your local discount store and stock up on plastic storage boxes with lids, tackle boxes, and other containers that can be used to keep things organized. If you prefer to recycle boxes and containers you already

have around the house, make sure you label them clearly so you'll know what's inside. ■ Separate projects in progress from those you've completed. You may want to buy an inexpensive file cabinet or storage unit with separate drawers. Some have convenient see-through drawers and wheels so you can easily move them when necessary. ■ Shop at flea markets, antique stores and garage sales for desks and small tables that might work as a hobby table. Desks and drafting tables with drawers work great for storing supplies and give you a larger work surface. If your space is limited look for ready-to-assemble worktables at your local home store or install a folding table that attaches to the wall and folds flat when not in use. Find a chair or stool that is the right height to use with your worktable and make sure

your hobby area has adequate lighting for your work. A floor lamp with an adjustable shade or a task lamp that attaches to the table may be all you need. ■ If you've decided to convert a closet into a hobby area, you should remove the existing shelf and clothes rod and replace them with a series of smaller shelves, cubes or bins that can hold hobby equipment and supplies. If the closet is large enough you may be able to work on several different hobbies within one area. However if space is limited, keep the table area clean and store supplies and tools in tote bags or baskets that can easily be stashed in a corner or carried to other rooms. ■ Keep an eye out for multifunctional accessories. Pegboards and hooks designed for garages or kitchens might work perfectly for your hobby area. Try to use a combination of open and closed con-

tainers. Use closed containers for items like beads or buttons that could spill or get lost, and use open containers like baskets to stack patterns, fabric, large rolls of plastic, etc. Keep frequently used tools on easily accessible hooks or place them in bins or baskets where they'll be within quick reach. ■ Add more visual interest to your hobby area by displaying finished projects on the wall. Use shadow boxes, shelves or other appropriate items to showcase your work. The beauty of a creating a hobby area is that a dedicated

space will inspire you and your family to work on your crafts and hobbies more often. The old adage "out of sight, out of mind" is often true when it comes to hobbies. If your supplies are easily accessible and you have a nice place to work, you are more likely to devote time to your hobby than if you have to rummage through a closet each time to find everything. Once your hobby area has been set up, make the time to use it on a regular basis. Pursuing a hobby heightens your creativity and it can be a great stress reducer.

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To a tea: Aged Japanese teapots

BY JENNIFER BUSH
THE ORANGE COUNTY REGISTER

The Japanese have a name for the art of finding beauty in objects that are imperfect, rustic or primitive. They call it wabi sabi.

Because the roots of wabi sabi stem from Zen Buddhism, there is an important spiritual component to it. Pared down to its essence, the philosophy celebrates elements that are weathered, worn and rusted in an appreciation of the passage of time. Several home-design books have recently focused on incorporating the aesthetic into the modern home.

For those who love Asian antiques, wabi sabi comes naturally. It can be found in the rustic beauty of a Japanese cast-iron teapot, called Tetsubin.

The Japanese have been using Tetsubin teapots for centuries. Families used the cast-iron teapots as kettles hung over a flame. They

originally were used daily for heating water for household needs. Their role changed in the mid-19th century, when tea from China became affordable for the masses and the process of making tea evolved from using a powdered form to whole tea leaves, called Sencha. Because the Chinese styles of teapots were expensive, a Tetsubin was used.

Despite these common roots, the cast-iron teapot also played a role in the Japanese tea ceremony. The design of the ceremonial hand-cast teapot was considered art and reflected the status of the owner.

"Teapots used in the tea ceremony were very prized," said Leslie Wolcott, a Laguna Beach, Calif., antiques dealer. "The ornamental ones were often passed on from generation to generation."

The owner of Wolcott Asian Antiques said she appreciates Tetsubin for their "artistic beauty" and buys them whenever she can find them. She often has several at her shop on Pacific Coast Highway.

The ornamental Tetsubin with intricate relief designs and inlays of copper, gold and silver were reserved for the tea ceremony, Wolcott said.

Identifying marks left by its maker are sometimes found under the lid.

Most of the Tetsubin found in California date from 1900 to 1940. The value of an unadorned Tetsubin can range from \$150 to \$200, to thousands of dollars for a more ornamental piece. For example, a small Tetsubin made by a famous swordmaker in Japan sold for \$35,000 at a Christie's auction last year, Wolcott said.

Japanese tea bowls and other ceremonial accouterments can also run into the thousands of dollars, she said.



SALAT'S COLLECTION of antique Asian tea kettles reflects the spirit of the Japanese philosophy of wabi sabi in his Lake Forest, Calif., home.



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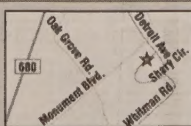
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